



**Create a
spark...**

**Light a
torch...**

Ignite a fire!



**FCRA 2014
Annual Convention
Sanibel Marriott
Resort & Spa**

**Save these dates:
June 6, 7 & 8**

**Agenda details
coming soon!**

**FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL REPORTER SEMINAR | REALTIME TIPS
STENOGRAPH | ECLIPSE | PRO CAT | CERTIFICATION EFFORT UPDATE
REALTIME SPEED CONTEST | GUEST SPEAKERS TO BE ANNOUNCED**

FCRA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President

Janet L. McKinney, RPR, FPR, CLR
 1370 Seabay Rd • Weston, FL 33326
 jjwor@msn.com • W: 954-658-3485 • FAX: 954-384-0340

President Elect

Holly Kapacinskas, RPR, CRR, FPR
 223 Caddie Ct • DeBary, FL 32713
 hollykap@att.net • W: 386-255-2150 • FAX: 386-668-2925

Vice President

Rosa Naccarato, FPR
 66 West Flagler St, 7th Floor • Miami, FL 33130
 rosie0057@att.net • W: 305-545-8434 • FAX: 305-325-8991

Treasurer

Christy Aulls Bradshaw, RPR, FPR
 201 N Magnolia Ave • Ocala, FL 34475
 christy@cabreporting.com • W: 352-401-0080 • FAX: 352-620-8819

Secretary

Lori L. Bundy, RMR, CRR, FPR, CLR
 561 31st St, SW • Naples, FL 34117
 loribundy@yahoo.com • W: 239-825-2086

Northern Director

Barbara Frank, RMR, CRR, FPR
 2315 Stanford Ct, #301 • Naples, FL 34112
 barb@donovanreporters.com • W: 239-793-0021 • FAX: 239-793-7991

Central Director

Danielle Freeze
 1708 Chestnut Hill • Tallahassee, FL 32312
 danielle_freeze@hotmail.com • W: 850-766-2895 • FAX: 850-668-0874

Southern Director

Kelly Owen McCall, RPR, FPR
 PO Box 157 • Ocala, FL 34478
 owenassoc@aol.com • W: 352-624-2258 • FAX: 352-369-6050

Directors at Large

Cathy M. Morrow, FPR
 550 Robles Ln • Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
 infosyspecialists@gmail.com • W: 800-240-0815

Sharon Velazco, RPR, CLR, FPR
 1610 SW 32nd Court • Miami, FL 33145
 scribe3159@aol.com • W: 786-371-7438

Immediate Past President

Sandra J. Estevez, CSR (CA), FPR
 One SE 3rd Ave, #1250 • Miami, FL 33131
 sestevez@uslegalsupport.com • W: 305-373-8404

Editor

Sharon Velazco, RPR, CLR, FPR
 1610 SW 32nd Court • Miami, FL 33145
 scribe3159@aol.com • W: 786-371-7438

Executive Director

Lynn Hupp
 222 S. Westmonte Drive, Ste. 101
 Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
 lhupp@kmgnet.com • W: 407-774-7880 • FAX: 407-774-6440

Statements of fact, opinion, and all advertisements are made on the responsibility of the author or advertiser, alone, and do not imply an opinion or endorsement on the part of anyone connected with FCRA. Materials may not be reproduced without written permission. Address all correspondence concerning content of the magazine to the editor. All correspondence regarding membership and advertising should be sent to FCRA Headquarters, 222 S. Westmonte Dr, #101, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714. Phone: 407-774-7880, Fax: 407-774-6440; www.fcraonline.org.

Table of Contents

DEPARTMENTS

President's Message: A Different Kind of New Year's Resolution.....	7
Editor's Message: New Year Brings New Roles & Responsibilities.....	5
Musings from Vana Lou.....	5
Realtime Poetry in Motion.....	5
Bulletin Board.....	6

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

FCRA Holds Its First Freestanding Seminar With the Florida Bar.....	7
Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award Nomination Form.....	8
Arlene P. Sommers Award for Outstanding Achievement in Education Nomination Form.....	9
Call for Nominations.....	10
Student Corner.....	11
Congratulations to Those Who Passed the October 2013 FPR Exam.....	15
Congratulations to Those Who Passed the April, May, July, August, October, and November Exams.....	15

ON THE JOB

Sleuthing the Net.....	13
How Many Times.....	16

FCRA WELCOMES

Welcome New Members.....	17
Membership Application.....	18



A special thanks to cover artwork illustrator (FCR Online editor Sharon Pell Velazco's cousin) and cartoonist Greg Pell.

By Janet L. McKinney, RPR, FPR, CLR,
2013-2014 President



A Different Kind of New Year's Resolution

If you are like me, you are looking at the calendar hanging in your office asking yourself, "Where in the world did 2013 go?" While everyone these days finds themselves swept up in the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, reporters, in particular, live in a constant state of frenzy, first running from job to job or courtroom to courtroom, and then working tirelessly to meet never-ending deadlines. It is now, in mid-January, as I write this article that I have time to sit down and reflect on the past year, and I would ask you to do the same.

As I sat last night and again this morning, thinking about FCRA, I realized that we are far different from the FCRA of many years past. As I looked back at 2013 and, in fact, the last few years, I realized that FCRA has stepped out of the shadows and into the limelight on many different fronts. We are a name now known to legislators, attorneys, judges, state commissions, and the Florida Supreme Court. It is as if I have witnessed the awakening of a sleeping giant.

As I continued to travel down memory lane, with a brief stop at all of the milestones that have marked this journey, I was remembering not only what we've done, but I smiled as all of a sudden, I realized I wasn't just thinking about the events, but thinking about the individual members, ticking off the names in my head, of those who were there representing FCRA so proudly in every forum and sometimes even more diligently behind the scenes.

Finally, as all good journeys must come to an end, I asked myself, if I had to pick one thing over the last year that I found the most memorable, what would it be? What is the one thing that has left the most indelible impression on me? I didn't have to mull that over for too long because in a split second, I had the answer. You. You, my fellow FCRA member. You, who have dug into your pockets in support of FCRA and our common goals. You, who continue to appreciate the value of being an FCRA member year after year. You, who are pulling the cart for every reporter in our state. In a word...YOU!

While FCRA continues to ask you to volunteer to serve on a committee or to serve on the board, we

also recognize that in the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, service is not always possible. However, your continued membership speaks volumes about your dedication to your state association and your support of all we are doing.

Now, I'm confident you have all made the traditional "New Year's Resolution" (or two...or maybe it was three) as we barreled into 2014. I would ask you to add one more to your list. It's an easy one that has nothing to do with setting limits for yourself such as losing 25 pounds, or achieving one little goal that screams self-improvement. Resolve that this year will be the year of conversation. We've all sat in a crowded courthouse, surrounded by other reporters with whom we barely exchange greetings because we are proofreading or editing, or frantically trying to answer e-mails. Take the time this year to have a conversation with someone every chance you get. Find out if they're FCRA members. If they are, you already have something wonderful in common. If they're not, take a few minutes to enlighten them on why you are a member and why you would encourage them to become a member as well. This is the same conversation you should have with friends who are not members. It's a conversation that we are not having enough of around the state.

As we head into the spring, FCRA will be kicking off their annual Information Exchanges. Information about locations and times will be available on the website and via eFlashes. Feel free to contact the person in charge of an event and find out how you can be of assistance to them. In most cases, getting the word out will be all that is asked of you. Then, make every effort to attend the event most local to you, and be sure to bring along a friend — or two or three — for an enjoyable evening of socializing with your colleagues.

What is my hope for 2014? That when I sit back at this time in January 2015, I can remember this year and smile when I recall that FCRA enjoyed record membership numbers because of one thing that changed everything. YOU!

Happy New Year!



By Sharon Pell Velazco,
FCR Online Editor

New Year Brings New Roles & Responsibilities

THIS was my Facebook posting this morning:

"I am writing my first article as editor of the the FCRA's online magazine...and am completely stumped for a theme. I, who am admitting my age when I confess to having been paddled in grade school for talking too much, am at a total loss for words. Maybe I should go buy a paddle, my first 'muse'..."

As I now glance down at Vana Lou, lying at my feet, she meets my gaze and whimpers, then rests her furry little head on her paws. I immediately realize she must have assumed my furrowed brow (which is my default expression for deep thought/extreme frustration) was directed at her. I reach over to scratch her head reassuringly and, as she closes her eyes in blissful canine appreciation, I resign myself to the fact that she won't be making any helpful suggestions on the article.

Maybe I should tell you something personal, like the fact that I couldn't read until the second grade. However, my encounter with Pippi Longstocking was the beginning of my lifelong courtship with words, and I can honestly say that I am just as in love now as I was back in the second grade. And whether our trysts are a few pages of a novel or perhaps editing a transcript, I always come away with a heightened respect for the English language and those who have its command. So I suppose THAT is the subject of MY introduction — the fact that as editor for 2014 of our *FCRonline* magazine, I am looking forward to reading and presenting the articles written by various members of our FCRA membership. I am sure you will enjoy them as much as I because after all, I think I can safely assume that reading was YOUR first love, as well!



"MUSINGS" FROM VANA LOU

Greetings! My name is Vana Lou!

I decided it's time that everyone knew
my thoughts are what she pens to the page
and though my mommy is smart,
I'M the REAL sage!

REALTIME POETRY IN MOTION

By Sharon Pell Velazco

The counselor gave his engaging smile –
I knew it was coming — it was just his style.
"How soon can I have this? Can it be right away?"
(After 300 pages at close of day!)
"My trial is Monday, and I need to prepare,"
(Mind you, it's FRIDAY that we're standing there!)
Lucky me, the job was practically done,
For my writer, computer, and I had been one.

Questions and answers, attorneys' side notes
scrolled down the iPads as I rhythmically wrote
in realtime the steno that captured the words,
instantly translated for all to observe.
A rough draft was ready; hard copy, next day.
And as he picked up his file, I heard him say,
"You can't put a price on that level of skill,"
which were my sentiments, exactly, as I made out my bill!

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM FCRA

Advertising Special

Contract to advertise in 8 issues (2 years) of this magazine and get a special 15% discount on top of our low rates! Call FCRA Headquarters today at 407-774-7880.

Needful People

Need a job? Need a reporter, agency, owners? Contact Placement Chairman Sandi Nargiz at 850-878-2221 or fax: 850-878-2254 or email: snargiz@comcast.net



WANTED!

Your stories to share with other reporters. Submit an article and receive .15 CEU points if published in *FCR Online*. Email your story to scribe3159@aol.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

FCRA 2014 Annual Convention

Sanibel Marriott Resort & Spa
Fort Myers, FL
June 6 - 8, 2014

Address Changes

ADDRESS CHANGED? PHONE NUMBER CHANGED?

Fax your changes to Headquarters at 407-774-6440 as soon as possible!

ARE YOU ON FACEBOOK?



If so, join the FCRA Group by looking up Florida Court Reporters Association...all the latest updates right at your fingertips!

Order Your Florida Manual

Stay up to date on Florida Rules and Procedures. Call 407-774-7880 to order your electronic version of the Florida Manual or visit www.fcraonline.org to order.

Just \$75.00 for members!

DON'T MISS E-FLASHES!

Be sure your email address is current. Call FCRA Headquarters and give them your email address today (407-774-7880) or email your changes to bking@kmgnet.com.

Stenograph Special

Get last line pricing with Stenograph supplies, as a member of FCRA receives a rebate.

Upcoming Florida Professional Reporter (FPR) Test Date

2014 DATES:

JUNE 6 - SANIBEL MARRIOTT RESORT & SPA

WEB SITE SPONSORS WANTED



Call Holly
Kapacinskas at
386-255-2150

ARE YOU MOVING? CHANGING A PHONE NUMBER? CHANGING A FAX NUMBER? CHANGING OR GETTING AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

If so, let FCRA Headquarters know right away. Simply fax 407-774-6440 today to make any necessary changes to the information we have on file for you!



**FCRA
BULLETIN
BOARD**

FCRA Holds Its First Freestanding Seminar With the Florida Bar

By Kelly Owen McCall



In an effort to help Florida reporters — as well as Florida Bar members and paralegals — get their CEU/CLE credits in before the end of the year, the Florida Court Reporters Association sponsored “Filing Appeals 101,” a three-hour seminar in Ocala, on September 26.

This seminar was pre-approved through NCRA and FCRA for .03 CEUs, as well as provided 3.5 General CLEs and 1 Ethics CLE for attorneys and 2 CLEs for certified paralegals (FRPs) through the Florida Bar. FCRA members and Florida Bar members were charged \$25 and nonmembers were charged \$40. The pre-approval meant that there were no conversion fees to NCRA or the Florida Bar for the attendees to submit their CEUs or CLEs.

The seminar speakers were David G. Mengers, Esquire, and Kelly Owen McCall, RPR, FPR. The seminar covered the filing of appeals and what is required from both the trial attorney and court reporter, as well as discussion on how the actual

procedures differ around the state. The attendees consisted of reporters, court reporter managers, attorneys and paralegals from Miami to Tallahassee.

As many of our members already know, FCRA is making great strides in strengthening our working relationship with the Florida Bar and judiciary. This was not only a relevant topic for reporters and a very affordable way to pick up some last-minute CEUs, but it was also a great opportunity for our members to interact with attorneys and paralegals regarding how important following the state and local rules are and the importance of the attorneys and reporter working together through the initial appellate process.

I sincerely hope that FCRA can do this on an annual basis. For the money, with the pre-approval to NCRA and no conversion fees involved, even for non-FCRA members, this seminar provided education on a relevant topic that many Florida reporters desperately need an update on. Yay us!

Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award

The Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award shall be bestowed by FCRA upon a person who possesses exceptional qualifications and experience in the field of court reporting, while contributing in a meritorious manner to the welfare of FCRA; and has served the Association in at least two (2) of the following categories:

- (1) Served the Association with active participation on committees and/or on the Board of Directors of the state association.
- (2) Contributed to the profession in areas of teaching, editing of publications or other contributions which have been designed for the advancement of court reporting.
- (3) Contributed important books, papers or other written material dealing with the profession.
- (4) Contributed seminars for the state association for members, such seminars having received the approval of NCRA for continuing education points.
- (5) Aided in the advancement of the profession by working in liaison with The Bar, the media, judicial groups, and/or educational institutions.

Please submit all nominations to Holly Kapacinskas, RPR, CRR, FPR, hollykap@att.net by April 4, 2014, to be awarded at the 2014 Annual Convention.



Emily Mann Distinguished Service Award Nomination Form

**Deadline is
April 4, 2014!**

I, _____, hereby nominate _____
to receive FCRA's EMDSA for the following reasons: (Please include criteria nominee has met.
Use separate page if necessary.)

Mail or email this form to Holly Kapacinskas, RPR, CRR, FPR, EMDSA Committee Chair,
223 Caddie Ct • DeBary, FL 32713
Email: hollykap@att.net • **DEADLINE: APRIL 4, 2014**

Nominations for Arlene P. Sommers Award for Outstanding Achievement in Education

- **Has an outstanding educator played a role in your reporting career?**
- **As a student, has a teacher's leadership and dedication helped motivate you to achieve your goals?**
- **Has a fellow teacher's example helped you to become a better teacher?**
- **As an administrator, do you want to show your appreciation and admiration for your outstanding educator?**

If so, you have the opportunity to see that that teacher is given the recognition he or she deserves by nominating him or her for the Arlene P. Sommers Award for Outstanding Achievement in Education. (Guidelines are set forth below.)

Nominations must include biographical data that lists outstanding achievements in and out of reporting, the number of years in reporter education, special interests and talents,

publications and awards, etc. Humorous stories about your nominee are also appreciated.

Nominations must be received by Holly Kapacinskas, hollykap@att.net or by fax: 407-774-6440 by APRIL 4, 2014. Students, fellow faculty members, administrators, or FCRA members are all eligible to submit nominations.

Arlene P. Sommers Award for Outstanding Achievement in Education

I. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Those teachers, tutors, or administrators engaged in a court reporting educational program in the State of Florida approved by the award committee, or any other person who has made a significant contribution to the education of court reporting students.

II. NOMINATIONS

- A. To be mailed to Holly Kapacinskas, Committee Vice Chair for forwarding to the Arlene P. Sommers Award Committee.
- B. Nominations for each year shall be open beginning January 1st of each year, and close April 4th of the corresponding year. Nominations must be received by Holly Kapacinskas, Committee Vice Chair, no later than April 4.
- C. Nominations may be made by teacher, student, school administrator, or by any member of FCRA.
- D. Nomination to be in letter/resume format, accompanied by support documentation.

III. SELECTION

Nominations will be considered by the Arlene P. Sommers Award Committee. The selection is to be made by the committee with the approval of the FCRA Board.

IV. AWARD

- A. Recommendation by the committee to FCRA Board to select the recipient.
- B. The recipient will receive, in addition to the monetary gift, a physical award.
- C. Recipient of this award and the school shall be notified no fewer than 30 days prior to the announcement/presentation of the award at the Annual Convention, if possible. If not, notification can be made by mail immediately following the Annual Convention.
- D. Free Convention registration for recipient.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The FCRA Nominating Committee will meet to interview a slate of nominees for the following positions of the Board of Directors.

President-Elect (One-year term)

Vice President (One-year term)

Secretary (One-year term)

Treasurer (One-year term)

Northern Director (Two-year term)

Southern Director (Two-year term)

Director-at-Large (One-year term)

Director-at-Large (One-year term)

The election of the FCRA Board of Directors will take place at the 2014 Annual Convention. The committee hopes you will take this opportunity to participate in the nominating procedure by submitting names of potential candidates for consideration by the Nominating Committee. The following are some of the qualities we look for in potential FCRA officers and directors:

LEADERSHIP: Interest, objectivity, decision-making capabilities, knowledge and experience, reliability, ability to inspire

ADMINISTRATIVE TRAITS: Courtesy, humility, friendliness, tact and diplomacy

ABILITY: Communication skills, initiative, professional image, maturity, association experience

Thank you for taking the time to be a part of the future of your Association!

Submit your nominations by **March 7, 2014**, to:

Sandra Estevez, CSR(CA), FPR

One SE 3rd Ave, #1250 • Miami, FL 33131

sestevez@uslegalsupport.com

I recommend the following FCRA member for consideration as a potential candidate for the position of:

Name: _____

I support the candidate for the following reasons: _____

May the Nominating Committee contact you by phone or email if further information is needed about the candidate?

Yes No Office Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

FCRA Member: _____ Date: _____

(Please photocopy this form for additional potential candidate recommendations or provide on separate sheet.)

Student Corner

By Robin Merker

All of us have a back story as to how we became aware of and then went into the court reporting profession. For some of us, we knew a court reporter, others saw it showcased in a career day, etc. Some stories are more mundane, some are quirky, and some are sheer happenstance. Few are as dramatic and inspiring as Kristi's. — *Robin Merker*

THAT NIGHT

By Kristi Johnson

April 23, 1997, I headed out for the evening with a good friend of mine. Toward the end of the evening, after my friend had had a few cocktails, she got in a fight with her boyfriend and insisted on driving home as she needed to see him to work things out. I was sober and thought I should drive and I pleaded with her to give me the keys. She refused.

During that evening, I had run into a friend of mine who just so happened to be an off-duty police officer out with a few of his buddies. He walked me to the car and tried to help me reason with my friend to let me drive her home. After 20 minutes or so, he suggested we let her go – she only lived a few blocks from there. We'd follow her and do our best to keep her (and anyone else on the road) safe. I agreed and got into his truck and they drove me back to her house.

We pulled in the driveway. I said my good-byes. As I turned to open the door, I heard the pop of the gun. I felt an immediate burning, I couldn't breathe, and what I can only describe as a sensation of almost floating. I knew immediately I was shot. Once I caught my breath, the first thing I thought was, I can't die tonight.

Believe it or not, I was calm. I was trying not to panic. I turned to the driver of the truck and said, "I've been shot. I need you to call 911." He gave me this look, said, "No, that can't be it," and proceeded to talk to my friend out his driver's side window. I repeated myself a few more times and no one reacted; they just kept talking. I finally leaned forward and said it one more time. At this point, my

friend looked over, saw the blood, and realized I wasn't kidding. His training kicked in and he started asking me one-word-answer type questions, like "What's your name?" "What day is it?" He kept me from going into shock.

Next thing I remember, I heard the sirens. Police surrounded the truck with guns drawn yelling at us to get out of the car. Two officers approached the driver's side and threw the door open while yelling, "Get out of the car." My friend turned to them and said, "I'm a police officer, badge and gun are on the floor, and I'm not leaving her until the paramedics are here. Arrest me when it's over." The look of horror on all of their faces when they realized they knew us I will never forget.

I was taken to the hospital, rushed into surgery, and spent the next two weeks in ICU. It's all a huge blur to me.

The 40-caliber bullet went straight through my spine. I have never been able to walk again since that night.

The next two months were spent in a hospital and rehab facility, and I spent the next year trying to wrap my head around that night. I probably either cried or screamed from frustration every single day that year. If I would have curled up in a ball and stayed there, no one at that point would have blamed me.

That first year I went through the lowest point in my entire life. I spent it fighting with the doctors, insurance companies, getting physical therapy, all while trying to deal with all of the emotions and anger I was feeling. When I got to the point where I could get through a day with only needing one nap and not six, I started trying to figure out what it was I was going to do with my life. I knew I'd be limited not being able to stand or walk, but I knew I needed to find something.

If you think the hardest part of learning you are paralyzed would be the idea of never walking again, you would be wrong. The hardest part to

Continued on page 12

Student Corner

Continued from page 11

*He'd rub my back. He'd kiss my cheek.
He'd throw his arms around my neck and
I'd hear his voice say, "It's ok, Mommy. I'll fix it."*

handle out of everything was how this was going to affect my son.

You see, when this happened, I was a single mother of a four-year-old boy. My son's biological father left and had nothing to do with him. For those of you who have children, family you would do anything for, you know what I'm talking about: You can do anything to me, but don't you dare hurt my child. I could see how this was affecting him, how he was hurting, how he was going without things a mother should be able to give her child. I couldn't teach him to ride his bike without training wheels, catch him when he jumped into the pool, or how to kick a soccer ball, and that was just eating me up inside.

Within a few months of my shooting, I took that anger I had and let it fuel this fire starting inside of me.

I HAVE to be a mother. Walking or not, I don't have a choice. I have to fight for my son. Every day I'd cry and scream from the depression, the frustration, the anger, and this little face would walk over to me. He'd rub my back. He'd kiss my cheek. He'd throw his arms around my neck and I'd hear his voice say, "It's ok, Mommy. I'll fix it." He deserves the

world. No one else but me is going to give it to him. I have to fight.

One year and nine months after I was shot, my deposition was taken. I rolled into the room, saw that court reporter, and it's like this light bulb went off. I already sit all day, my hands, brain, eyes, etc., they all still work. It hit me like a ton of bricks; this is what I can do. Funny thing was, a few years before I was paralyzed, I had made an attempt at court reporting school and quit six, eight months into it. It was too hard. I didn't have the time. I had every excuse in the book why it just wasn't going to work back then. Now, here I have ten more excuses and I think I can make it work now? Hell, yeah, I can.

I left that depo, went straight home and looked up that school I had gone to and made my appointment to meet with them. Almost two years to the day of when I was shot, I started theory a second time. I fought through the back pain, the nerve pain (neuropathy), the insomnia, other medical issues that would pop up, I had doctors' appointments, physical therapy four days a week, childcare issues, and money issues as I was dead broke. Trust me, it

Continued on page 15



SLEUTHING THE NET

By Donna M. Kanabay, RMR, CRR, FPR • donna@kanabay.com

WHAT AMAZING TIMES WE LIVE IN

January 1, 2014. The new year had just been ushered in. (Unfortunately for me, very, very zealously by neighbors to the west, north and south of me. After a rotten night's sleep, a nap is definitely in my forecast.)

As I write this on January 2, 2014, I'm stressing over the deadline from our new FCRA magazine editor. I don't want to disappoint her or cause her angst as she embarks on her inaugural voyage. And as usual, I'm stretching for a topic.

But something keeps tapping at my brain and it won't go away. I'm taken back to yesterday, around 11:00 in the morning, as I was settling down on the couch to veg and looking for something interesting to half watch while I continue to read my book on my Kindle App on my SmartPhone.

Oh, you've got to be kidding me. SyFy Channel. A Twilight Zone marathon. The original Twilight Zone. Yeah, I've got to take a look at this.

I'm instantly swept back to childhood and one of my earliest memories: The family all gathered around the TV to watch. I was too young to really understand it, but I've always believed that those early years of watching this show helped shape my lifelong interest in the odd, the occult, the unexplained and the unexplainable, science fiction. And, gosh, do I still love Rod Serling's melodious voice!

I was absolutely glued to the TV all day, watching episode after marvelous episode, stunned by how the show — advanced for its time but primitive by today's standards — has withstood the test of time. Good grief, these shows originally aired from 1959 to 1964! I was two years old when it started; seven years old when it ended. 55 years later, I'm completely hooked — not by the nostalgia of it all, although that's certainly part of it — but because they're good.

I'm one of those people who generally gets bored "just" watching TV, and I usually divide my attention

between whatever's on TV and reading my e-book. Periodically, I flip out of my book to check my e-mail or see what's up on Facebook.

About the time my husband came back inside from whatever he was doing out there, (and he, too, became instantly hooked,) I did something I rarely do: I posted a Status on Facebook, that I was glued to the Twilight Zone marathon. Moments later, a good friend replied to my post, that they, too, had tripped over it and were also entranced (and SHE wasn't even born when the shows aired)! She commented that she had her laptop out so she could multitask on some work while they watched.

Even more amazing to me than how doggone GOOD these shows are — not "were" — ARE — was the fact that I remembered seeing some of the episodes! I could even visualize where everybody in my family was sitting in our old family room in Grayslake, Illinois. And when I swore up and down that we were watching a very, very young Cloris Leachman, and my husband disagreed, I flipped out of my e-book app yet again and looked up the episode and, sure enough, I was right. From then on, my husband and I were playing tag, seeing who we could recognize, or wondering who this actor or that one was. As fast as I could thumbtype, Google was providing me with the answers.

Somewhere along the way, it occurred to me how very amazing this is: I'm holding in my hand a small device that has more computing power than the best computers that the government probably had in the infancy of computing during that very era that these shows were first aired. I'm instantly communicating not only with my friend at the other end of the state, who's watching the same thing I'm watching, but with others who popped into the conversation with Likes or comments.

Continued on page 14

SLEUTHING THE NET



Continued from page 13

Sitting here this morning, tapping out this article, I became curious about what might be out there about What Amazing Times We Live In, and came across some interesting and insightful articles.

<http://froknowsphoto.com/we-live-in-an-amazing-time/>

I was struck by this statement: "There are no more gatekeepers. You can get to any celebrity, musician, artist, tech visionary, or other people just like you. If you want something, you CAN make it happen. The tools are at our disposal."

Just yesterday, I had written an author to ask whether one of his old books would ever come out on Kindle. He responded within hours. And that's not the first time I've had conversations with favorite authors. Twenty years ago, even 10 years ago, you would have had to write the author (using snailmail) in care of the publisher and then maybe — but more likely not — you'd get a response probably months down the road. And now you can follow and communicate with authors, actors, singers, politicians — you name it — just by finding their Facebook page or e-mail address.

I found this blog entry even more fitting. I could almost have written it myself. (But probably not as well.)

<http://rnrdevelopment.com/Blog/tabid/69/EntryId/8/When-you-think-about-it-we-live-in-an-amazing-time-period.aspx>

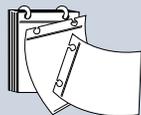
"Ever have one of those moments where you are going about your regular day, seeing regular things happen around you, and you all of a sudden notice how something that seems mundane and usual is something really spectacular?"

The author goes on to describe his sudden amazement at seeing his daughter communicating through live video with a friend in another country.

I've often marveled at the amazing power we hold in our hand with our phones, tablets, and laptops. I sometimes say that I can remember, as a child, imagining having a simple portable phone. Never did I envision the Internet and the instant access to information that we have now, no matter where we are, no matter what we're doing. Just using yesterday as an example, within seconds of each new episode of Twilight Zone, I had the full cast and synopsis of it at my fingertips. And I can't count how many times I've been in a conversation and wondered about something, looked it up, and found the answer. And I don't even stop anymore to marvel at what I'm able to learn instantly. Like all of us, I simply take it for granted that I'll have the information I'm looking for. It was only this morning, with my deadline looming, that I realized What Amazing Times We Live In.

Oh, and I never did take my nap yesterday. I couldn't tear myself away!

Thank you, Rod Serling, for wonderful adventures — 55 years ago, and now.



FCR Online Deadline Dates

(Spring) Feb/Mar/Apr Jan. 5, 2014
Publication Date Feb. 12, 2014

(Fall) Aug/Sept/Oct..... July 5, 2014
Publication Date Aug. 12, 2014

(Summer) May/June/July April 5, 2014
Publication Date May 12, 2014

(Winter) Nov/Dec/Jan Oct. 5, 2014
Publication Date Nov. 12, 2014

Student Corner

Continued from page 12

was the hardest thing I've ever done, but nothing was going to get in my way this time around. To top it off, when I finally qualified, to add to everything else, I was in a really bad car accident and ended up with the worst whiplash I've ever had that gave me horrible headaches/migraines almost daily for the weeks I was taking my CSR prep classes.

I took all my problems, all my pain, and instead of using them as an excuse as to why I can't do something, I used it to drive me, to motivate me. If I ever want things to be easier, I have to fight through this, face my struggles head on, and never let them get the best of me.

Needless to say, that drive paid off and I passed my CSR test the first time through. I remember my first paycheck. I took this son of mine that saved my life, that gave me my fire, and we went to Target (haha, yes, Target). For the first time in his life, he could have anything he wanted. We bought video games – plural – and not the used ones. He got to have something new all his own. He got toys galore. It felt so good to be able to give him all those things I couldn't afford to get him before.

We hit the mall and bought new clothes, and not the stuff on the clearance racks where we'd always shopped before. He got to pick out the stuff he liked. All I can say is it was the best feeling in the world to finally be able to give him those things I never could afford before.

I tell you my story not to get sympathy, but so you will all know we all have our struggles getting through school. You never know what that student sitting next to you is dealing with once they leave that front door, so don't judge anyone. Keep your focus on you. You have to fight through those hard times, use them to motivate you, stick to it, and you will succeed. I promise, one day it will pay off!

Congratulations to Those Who Passed the October 2013 FPR Exam

Brandi Alvis
Lawanda Brown
Teresa Depontes
Carissa Edwards
Jayne Foreman
Jane Harrison
Kerri Irizarry
Erin Lehnen
Stephen Mahoney
Angela M. Mathis
Cindy McClary
Karen Morrell
Wendy Roberts
Jodi Silverstein
Marva Tobler
Melinda Traeger
Georgia Winegeart

Congratulations to Those Who Passed the April, May, July, August, October, and November NCRA Exams

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTERS

Jan Bronis, RPR, Miami, FL
Julia Griffin, RPR, Starke, FL
Jennifer Harris, RPR, Apopka, FL
Cheryl McDonough, RPR, Tavares, FL
Mary Kline, RPR, Tallahassee, FL
Jacqueline A. Komin, RPR, Pembroke Pines, FL
Uyen N. Mahaz, RPR, Orlando, FL
Vanessa Obas, RPR, Miami, FL
Lorie L. Percy, RPR, Orlando, FL
Jennifer Sanders, RPR, Winter Park, FL

REGISTERED MERIT REPORTERS

Wendy Marie Beath Anderson, RMR, CRR, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Mae Fisher, RMR, Orlando, FL
Jennifer Fleischer, RMR, Clearwater, FL
Anthony Trujillo, RMR, CRR, Kissimmee, FL

CERTIFIED REALTIME REPORTERS

Donna Keller, RPR, CRR, Winter Park, FL
Ninette Long, RPR, CRR, Orlando, FL
Tracie Thompson, RPR, CRR, Fort Myers, FL
Anthony Trujillo, RPR, CRR, Kissimmee, FL
Julie Wycoff, RPR, CRR, Gulf Breeze, FL

CERTIFIED CART PROVIDERS

Ann Baldassari, RMR, CRR, CCP, Orlando, FL
Darlene Herndon, RPR, CCP, Oviedo, FL

HOW MANY TIMES...

"How many times have you been on a job and heard these misnomers being used by someone, and had to refrain from leaping across the table and giving them an educating V-8 thump on the head? Instead, you paste a nonchalant expression on your face and force yourself to write it down verbatim — and then make a mental note to add THAT to the list of necessary things your children/ other people's children need to know to make our world more civilized..."

25 COMMON PHRASES THAT YOU'RE SAYING WRONG

- | | |
|---|---|
| 01: Nip it in the butt vs. Nip it in the bud | 13: Aks vs. Ask |
| 02: I could care less vs. I couldn't care less | 14: What's your guyses opinion? vs. What's your opinion, guys? |
| 03: One in the same vs. One and the same | 15: Espresso vs. Espresso |
| 04: You've got another thing coming vs. You've got another think coming | 16: Momento vs. Memento |
| 05: Each one worse than the next vs. Each one worse than the last | 17: Irregardless vs. Regardless |
| 06: On accident vs. By accident | 18: Sorta vs. Sort of |
| 07: Statue of limitations vs. Statute of limitations | 19: Conversating vs. Conversing |
| 08: For all intensive purposes vs. For all intents and purposes | 20: Scotch free and Scott free vs. Scot free |
| 09: He did good vs. He did well | 21: I made a complete 360 degree change in my life vs. I made a complete 180 degree change in my life |
| 10: Extract revenge vs. Exact revenge | 22: Curl up in the feeble position vs. Curl up in the fetal position |
| 11: Old timer's disease vs. Alzheimer's Disease | 23: Phase vs. Faze |
| 12: I'm giving you leadway vs. I'm giving you leeway | 24: Hone in vs. Home in |
| | 25: Brother in laws vs. Brothers in law |

FCRA welcomes the following new members

(Includes all members who joined as of February 1, 2014)

STUDENT MEMBERS

NAME	CITY	SPONSOR
Hernandez, Dianelis.....	Palm Beach Gardens.....	Aurora Joslyn
Houghton, Alison.....	Cantonment.....	Susan Wasilewski
Mingori, Geralynn.....	Winter Park.....	Susan Wasilewski

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

King, Mark.....	Longwood.....	Jeanette S. Scott
Maxwell, Barbara.....	Flagler Beach.....	Janet L. McKinney
Patrick, Lisa.....	Mexico Beach.....	Debbie Showman Zirbel

STUDENT MEMBERS

Turner, Jennifer.....	Jacksonville.....	Jennifer Turner
-----------------------	-------------------	-----------------



Like Florida Court Reporters Association on Facebook



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Florida Court Reporters Association

*Name (Please print) _____ NCRA # _____ NVRA # _____

*Company _____ Owner Co-owner Manager

*Mailing Address _____ Website: _____

*City/State/Zip _____

*Telephone: Home (____) _____ Office (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

CHECK ONE: OK to publish home phone number in directory. DO NOT publish home phone number.

*Email address _____ Secondary Email Address _____

*METHOD OF REPORTING: Stenographic Voicewriter Gregg Pittman Other _____

*TYPE OF REPORTER: Freelance Official Deputy Official Federal Teacher Student Other _____

*DESIG: CSR (List State(s) other than FL) _____ FAPR FPR RPR RDR CMRS RMR CLVS CRI CRR CPE

*Asterisk indicates required information.

I make application for Membership as a: (CHECK ONE)

PARTICIPATING MEMBER\$300.00
Open to anyone engaged in active practice of official or general court reporting by either stenographic or voicewriter method. (Please indicate method above.) **PAYMENT PLAN AVAILABLE**
 *Pre-Authorized Payment Plan Attached (Participating Members Only)

STUDENT MEMBER\$35.00
Open to any student of shorthand reporting who is endorsed by a court reporting training program instructor or director.

RETIRED MEMBER\$45.00
Open to any participating member in good standing who has retired from the active practice of shorthand reporting.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER \$90.00
This category is open to the following (please check one):
 Teachers of shorthand reporting
 Individuals officially connected with a school or college conducting shorthand reporting course - **School Name & Location** _____
 Non-member individuals retired from active shorthand reporting
 Anyone professionally associated with or employed by a member of FCRA whose application is endorsed by a participating member in good standing (**please print sponsoring member's name below where requested**)
 Anyone qualifying for Participating membership, but residing outside of Florida - State of Residence _____

VENDOR MEMBER.....\$500.00
Open to any firm or corporation engaged in selling products or services to FCRA members.

PRO BONO: Are you interested in donating time to the Pro Bono Program?
 Yes No

FLORIDA MANUAL: The guide to court reporting in Florida — sample forms, guidelines, and rules of court. Cost for members: \$75.00. Subscription to updates: \$25.00.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: Searchable geographical and alphabetical members' listing in Member's Only section of our website.

The dues year is November 1 through October 31. Annual dues must accompany application. Those joining in August, September, or October of a given year will be paid through October 31 of the following year. Dues payments are deductible by members as an ordinary and necessary business expense. In accordance with Section 6033(e) (2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, members of the FCRA are hereby notified that an estimated 10% of your FCRA dues will be allocated to lobbying and political activities, and therefore is not deductible as a business expense.

For Administrative Use Only

Date Rec'd _____ Ref # _____ Amount _____
Date Approved _____ Computer _____

I hereby make application for membership in the Florida Court Reporters Association and pledge myself, if accepted, to abide by the requirements of the Bylaws and Code of Professional Responsibility of the Association as they are now and as they may be amended in the future.

I understand that all applications are subject to review and approval by FCRA. All applicants must be sponsored by an FCRA member in good standing per FCRA bylaws.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Name of Sponsoring Member (Please print or type)

PAYMENT ENCLOSED FOR:

Membership Dues \$ _____

Florida Manual on CD:
__ copies @ \$75.00 each
(Includes 7% sales tax + handling) _____

One-year subscription
to Florida Manual Updates
__ subscriptions @ \$25.00 each
(Includes 7% sales tax + handling) _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Check # _____ MasterCard VISA AmEx

Account # _____

Exp. Date: _____

Amount to charge: \$ _____

Authorized Signature _____

*Participating Members selecting the pre-authorized payment plan option will need to sign and complete the payment section of the pre-authorized payment plan form.

Make check payable to FCRA and mail to FCRA Headquarters, 222 S. Westmonte Dr, Ste 101, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
Telephone 407-774-7880 • FAX 407-774-6440 (for charge payments only) • www.fcraonline.org



Pre-Authorized Payment Plan Form

Participating Membership Only

Please complete and return payment plan form and membership application to:

FCRA Headquarters
222 S. Westmonte Dr, Suite 101
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
Fax: 407-774-6440

The FCRA payment plan is available only through submission of this form and is not available online.

INSTALLMENTS: Plan is payable by credit card only. Check payments will not be accepted.
All payments will be automatically processed as outlined below.

First Payment	Processed upon receipt of this form	\$100.00
Second Payment	Processed 30 days after first payment	\$110.00
Third/Final Payment	Processed 60 days after first payment	\$110.00

Member Name: _____

Member Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Terms of the Agreement: I hereby authorize FCRA to process the fees for my participating membership in three credit card transactions. All transactions will be processed to the credit card provided on this form. The first payment in the amount of \$100.00 will be processed upon receipt. The second installment in the amount of \$110.00 will be automatically processed 30 days following the first payment. The third and final installment in the amount of \$110.00 will be automatically processed 60 days following the first payment. Check payments will not be accepted under this agreement. I understand there will be NO REFUNDS for any installment (partial payment) processed under this agreement. I also understand that FCRA membership will not be considered active until all three plan payments have been processed successfully. The full amount paid under this plan for my FCRA Participating membership dues will be \$320.00 which includes a \$20 administrative fee for processing multiple payments.

Please enroll me in the payment plan. I have included credit card information for all three installments below. I fully understand and agree to the Terms of the Agreement as stated above.

Signature

Payment Method:

Master Card Visa American Express

Billing Address: *(If different from above)*

Account #: _____ Exp Date: _____

Cardholder's Name / Signature

Submit by Email

Print Form