



Maryland Court Reporters Association  
2018 Annual Convention  
September 22, 2018  
Crowne Plaza Hotels & Resorts  
173 Jennifer Road, Annapolis, Maryland  
Agenda & Speakers  
  
Total .90 CEUs

***SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018***

**REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 7:00 to 8:00 a.m.

**UNLEASHING THE REALTIME SUPERSTAR IN YOU! OR HOW I MADE MY LIFE EASIER**

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Presenter: Ed Varallo, RMR, CRR, FAPR

.15 CEU

Shorthand for the 21<sup>st</sup> century boils down to this: write short – write fast – write clean - do it all day! To be truly realtime capable – able to turn out fast, accurate drafts and fast certified transcripts – we need to write smarter. We have to write fast, with clean notes, for hours on end – and then turn out a fast draft transcript on demand. Ed Varallo, six-time NCRA Speed Contest champion, will outline his systematic approach to writing shorthand which is designed to require less physical effort, produce better realtime output, and thus reduce editing/scoping time. Ed will share his tips and techniques that will set you on the path to unleash the Realtime Superstar inside you!

**Ed Varallo**, who comes from a family of court reporters, began reporting just after high school. In 1965, on his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, Ed became the youngest person ever to pass the Certificate of Merit exam (now the RMR). Ed has six times been NCRA's National Speed Champion, winning three years consecutively, 1974-1976, ten years later in 1986, again in 1996, and again in 2006 – a unique Speed Contest record.

Ed got his first CAT system in 1978 and reported his first realtime assignment in 1983. Ed is a certified realtime reporter and a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters. He is the recipient of two Distinguished Service Awards, in 1994 from the Massachusetts Court Reporters Association, and in 2007 from NCRA.

The Boston Globe considers Ed “the Michael Jordan of court reporting”. For four decades, he has addressed reporters at national and state association seminars. He’s the author of “The Realtime Writer’s Manual” first published in 1992, and “Ed’s Steno Pro” published in 2013.

Ed is a frequent contributor to the Journal of Court Reporting. Throughout his career, Ed has had the opportunity to work on many high-stakes trials and complex litigation depositions. He is married to Nancy Varallo, NCRA’s 2013-2014 President.

**VENDOR BREAK: 9:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.**

**UNLEASHING THE REALTIME SUPERSTAR IN YOU! OR HOW I MADE MY LIFE EASIER (CONTINUED)**

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

Presenter: Ed Varallo, RMR, CRR, FAPR

.10 CEU

**VENDOR BREAK: 10:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**RECRUITING FOR OUR FUTURE – TOGETHER**

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 11:00 to 12:00 p.m.

Presenter: Ed Varallo, RMR, CRR, FAPR

.10 CEU

Project Steno has spent decades training students and developing reporters for successful careers in our time-honored profession. In this motivational and upbeat presentation, Ed will discuss the need for all of us to work – together – to bring young people into court reporting and captioning. Learn about the grassroots A to Z program and the new A to Z Online offering. Hear about Project Steno’s exciting awareness campaign and tuition

assistance/student monitoring program. Walk away with a new can-do spirit. Yes, WE can do this!

### **NCRA TOWN HALL MEETING & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 12:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Working Lunch)

Presenter: Steve Clark, NCRA Director

.10 CEU

Hot Topics/Court Reporting Issues in the State of Maryland

### **REPORTERS ON THE RED CARPET: WRITING THE OSCARS**

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 2:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Presenter: Erika Sjoquist, RPR, CRR

.20 CEU

### **VENDOR BREAK: 3:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.**

What's it like to "Write the Oscars", as well as the questions and answers between the International Press and the Oscar winners for AMPAS? Erika will explain how the team prepares for such an assignment and more!

**Erika Sjoquist**, who typically works as a freelancer in Camarillo, California, is on the team that covers the awards for the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA), also a Steno Scripts assignment, which turns into good preparation the month before the Oscars.

### **TRANSITIONING FROM COURT TO CART/CAPTIONING**

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Presenter: Steve Clark, CRC

.15 CEU

Steve will begin with a brief background of his career and his path from a

court reporting student to court reporter to broadcast captioner, CART captioner, business owner, and now manager of Home Team Captions (HTC).

Steve will share his experiences with providing CART in the courtroom. The realtime equipment Steve uses will be set up and available to all, including wireless options for providing CART, captioning and peripheral equipment that every realtime writer should have on hand. A link to NCRA's "CART in the Courtroom: Model Guidelines" will be provided to all attendees.

**Steve Clark** is a Certified Realtime Captioner (CRC) based in Washington, DC. He started his freelance court reporting career in 1985. In 1997, he transitioned to a career in realtime broadcast captioning. In 2006, he started Home Team Captions which provides onsite and remote captioning and CART services in Washington, DC, Maryland, Virginia, as well as nationally and internationally. In July 2016, Home Team Captions became part of the Alternative Communication Services (ACS) family of companies. He is a current director for NCRA.

**VENDOR AND SNACK BREAK: 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**GET GOOD, THEN GET BETTER**

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Presenter: Mary Ann Payonk, Independent Realtime Reporter

.10 CEU

A look at the court reporting field through the world of memes; what are memes; why we need relief from the stress of the job; memes are based on a little bit of truth and a lot of humor; we must learn to laugh in our job; although a serious look at issues we face, laugh first, THEN find a way to overcome bumps in the road; empowering reporters; the value of networking; the importance of supporting those who support you.

**Mary Ann Payonk** is a 1977 graduate of Central Pennsylvania Business School in Summerdale, Pennsylvania, and she has worked for over 20 years in the Richmond Area. Mary Ann is currently working in the Greater Washington, D.C. area. She served as president for two terms with the

Greater Washington Shorthand Reporters Association. Over the course of her career, Mary Ann has achieved her RPR, RMR, RDR, CRR and CCR. Mary Ann has begun an annual Reporter Empowerment Conference in Alexandria, Virginia, contributing her own time and money, advocating and giving back to the court reporting profession.