# LACCRA NEWS

# Los Angeles County Court Reporters Association E-mail Newsletter

**AUGUST 2014** 

Volume I. Issue I





Theodore Roosevelt said in a speech about Citizenship in a Republic:

"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena."



## **UPCOMING LACCRA SEMINARS**

August 23, 2014 - **Introduction to the World of CART** (Communication Access Realtime Translation)

September 20, 2014—Realtime Tricks and Tips

Sign up. Get your court hours and improve your skills professionally.

#### PUBLIC OUTREACH

FACEBOOK—LACCRA

ARE YOU LOGGING ON AND LIKING LACCRA'S FACEBOOK PAGE? WE WANT TO SEE AS MANY LIKES AS THERE ARE REPORTERS IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA!

COME ON-LOG ON-

LIKE, COMMENT, RESPOND!

**CSR# 7925** 

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#### CCRA ANNUAL CONVENTION

Miramonte Hotel—Palm Springs, CA, October 3-5, 2014



REGISTER NOW AND SAVE!

# Convention savings! Check this out CCRA, LACCRA Members and nonmembers:

- If you are a member of CCRA, the LACCRA board of directors encourages your attendance to the CCRA convention by offering the following registration incentives:
  - \$100 paid by LACCRA If you register by September 1st! Please use discount code LACCRAMBR100.
- \$50 paid by LACCRA if you register September 2nd or after! Please use discount code LACCRAMBR50.
- Remember, LASC pays \$250 toward training when you attend approved classes. You pay almost nothing (except your room) if you register by August 20!

If you are <u>not</u> a member of CCRA, LACCRA members enjoy an additional \$50 discount of their membership fee by using the discount codes when you select CCRA's Join and Register option.

- \$150 paid by LACCRA If you register by August 20! Please use discount code LACCRA150.
- \$125 paid by LACCRA if you register August 21 through September 1st, please use discount code LACCRA125.
- \$100 paid by LACCRA if you register September 2nd or after! Please use discount code LACCRA100.

Your association, LACCRA, supports CCRA in its efforts to promote and protect our profession here in Los Angeles County, as well as throughout California. CCRA has been successful for over the past 104 years in advocating on behalf of the court reporting profession. It is imperative that each LACCRA member either renew their CCRA membership or join CCRA and be a part of the team that keeps our profession viable!

CCRA wields the legislative hammer, so to speak, in defeating the constant ER or DR proposals that raise their ugly heads every year! We never know what proposals will come around the corner and attack our profession, so we have to be ready and that means supporting CCRA so that they can do their job!

CCRA has been successful fighting ER implementation both in the legislature as well as when suggested by the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office.

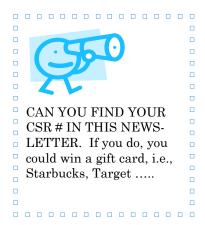
CCRA was successful defeating the proposal to take away preliminary hearing transcripts.

CCRA was there for the reporters who were laid off by providing seminars to help them transition into the freelance field.

CCRA has the most educational continuing education conference in the state - and in the best locations! CCRA will hold its annual convention at the Miramonte Spa and Hotel in Indian Wells, California on October 3 - 5, 2014, with most classes being held on Saturday and Sunday.

If you already belong to CCRA, we thank you for your continued support!

Dedicated to its members and the profession! The LACCRA Board of Directors





Los Angeles Superior Court is updating their Group-

wise mail server to Office 365. As of this past week, July 31, 2014, you should have received a login and password in Groupwise. August 4, 2014, you will be able to log in to Office 365 Email at: https://microsoftonline.com. Follow the directions to input your login and change your password to what you want it to be. The new Domain name is LACourt.org.

#### Career Recruitment and Student Outreach

(Carol Herrera and Debra Ford)

What is the biggest threat to our profession, and even bigger threat than ER? It's the shortage of newly enrolled and graduating court reporting students. Throughout the past few years, many court reporting schools throughout the state and country have closed due to the declining enrollment of new students or dropping out of discouraged students. In 2013, only 111 total examinees passed the California CSR's exam.

Both NCRA and CCRA are aware of this very real threat to our profession and have committees working on increasing and supporting student enrollment and retention as well as increasing and supporting court reporting schools.

Hoping to do our part at the local level to boost enrollment and protect our profession, LACCRA's Student Outreach Committee is busy scheduling dates with local high schools to participate in their career days in the upcoming 2014/2015 school year. We are also scheduling days to speak to currently enrolled students at our local court reporting schools to boost student morale and answer career-related questions. I'm sure you all remember what it was like being a student and struggling or plateauing at a certain speed. Do you remember how uplifting and encouraging it was speaking to a visiting court reporter who inspired us not to give up and keep going?

What can you do to help protect our profession? The Student Outreach Committee will be asking for LACCRA members to volunteer their time to speak or give a demonstration at a local high school career day and/or speak at a local court reporting school. No special training or education is needed! We've all been students and can relate to their struggles, their future employment concerns, their test jitters. We can all answer career-related questions and give a machine demonstration. Do your part to strengthen our numbers and keep our wonderful, rewarding profession strong and viable by volunteering to be a member of the Student Outreach Committee -- or at the very least -- volunteer one afternoon, morning, or evening to speak or give a demonstration at a career day or court reporting school. Contact LACCRA for more details.

LACCRA Student Outreach Committee

## MOU - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING—YOUR CONTRACT

To All LACCRA Members.

The agreement with SEIU and management has been ratified.

Thank you to all who took the time to find your voting location and vote. We know you received late notice, and your LACCRA board worked as fast as they could to remedy any problems you had with this issue. We apologize in advance if you didn't get a chance to cast your vote. We hope the outcome was favorable.

So what this means is on June 30, 2014, you will receive a 3% one-time payment. The bonus will appear on the July 15, 2014, paycheck.

On June 30, 2015, you will receive a 1% one-time payment. The bonus will appear on the July 15, 2015, paycheck.

July 1, 2016, the Court will reflect a permanent 4% increase to the base salaries of employees on its payroll as of June 17, 2016. You will also receive your second installment for the Benefits bonus (Options) of \$250 in July 2014.

If you have any further inquiries, please feel free to contact Rose Nava, LACCRA president, at Rosalina.nava@laccra.org

Dedicated to its members and the profession!

Rose Nava, LACCRA President



# LACCRA'S FALL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014 1545 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD LOS ANGELES, SEIU UNION

12:30 P.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

Board Elections, legislation, working conditions; i.e., vacation matrix, hiring back, etc; convention news.





# Do we have your updated contact information?

Please remember to call (949-715-5481) or email Michele Hyson (Michele. Hyson@laccra.org) at the LACCRA office with any telephone, address or email updates. You may also go to the LACCRA website at laccra.org, login using your username and password, and update your membership profile that way, too.

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#### **BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS:**

New Hires: LASC has hired back 13 of our laid off reporters. We are planning more meetings with management to hire more of our laid off reporters back to court! Please fill out the survey online concerning the shortage and denial of time off, doctor's appointments, etc., that has been sent to your e-mails as soon as you can.

## **MEMBER OUTREACH**

On August 6, 2014, at Luminarias Restaurant in Monterey Park, at 5:00 p.m. to 7:30ish p.m. LACCRA held its first Meet-n-Greet get together. It was our maiden voyage to bring our membership together and let them get to know their Board and Officers, touch base on issues affecting reporters in our courts and see other reporters who are in our other courthouses that we don't get to see or haven't seen for a while. There were appetizers, non-alcoholic drinks and at your own expense alcoholic drinks served.

Just a few photos of what those who didn't attend missed:













More pics on our LACCRA Fascebook page!

MEET AND GREETS are coming to you! Yes, LACCRA with the generous help of our members are planning to bring the social hour to your neighborhood (or as close as we can) to come see our members and find out what you are thinking, your suggestions, what you feel LACCRA should be focusing on, planning, etc. CSR#9884 Stay tuned and spend an hour or two with your fellow reporters and do a little networking