



On The Record

Houston Court Reporters Association

From The President:

Dear Members,

Welcome, one and all, to a Genesis year! Starting anew, our goal is to provide for court reporters' needs and to better utilize HCRA funds while doing so.

Due to postage and printing costs, our highest expense is the newsletter. In the future, all newsletters will be posted on the HCRA Web site (www.hcrainfo.com), thus cutting our costs tremendously. We will notify you via e-mail when new issues are posted.

Our next big step is to utilize a plan that will bring in funds and give you something you really need. This plan is the Ethics Mini-Seminars, or mini-semis, as I like to call them. There will be one in April and one in October, taking care of those who plan ahead and those who procrastinate. Immediately following each mini-semi will be the usual Association meeting for all members. More information is included in this newsletter. Do take note that the cost for the mini-semi is extremely affordable. Helping reporters meet their needs in a cost-effective way is our goal. We don't want you to sacrifice your first born to get your CEU points in ethics!

With all that said, the biggie for the year is the annual fundraiser. This year it is Casino Night. Did you know there is something you can do right from where you are sitting to help HCRA? Well, there is! All you have to do is invite everyone you know. This night is

not only for you, the member, but for all court reporters, friends, family, clients, co-workers, teachers/personnel at our court reporting schools, vendors, interpreters, videographers and litigation support people. Each of you will personally receive an invitation and RSVP card. Please contact me if you wish to invite others. I will send you invitations to distribute, giving others an opportunity to come to or to sponsor this fine evening.

Please remember that Association meetings are three times a year and WE WANT YOU! We want to hear from you as we strive to serve and represent. The next meeting is directly after the mini-semi in April. So even if you do not need your ethics points, come at noon to be a part of your association and enjoy great food and camaraderie.

Once again, I am proud to represent our association this year and will strive to listen and work with the Board to implement anything that will benefit our association. Remember, this is a Genesis year; so sit back and do nothing, letting it pass you by, or join in and MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

God Bless you all!
Vonda

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2007 HCRA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Reporter Sites of Interest

CRCB Web Site:
www.crcb.state.tx.us

HCRA Web Site:
www.hcrainfo.com

TCRA Web Site:
www.tcra-online.com

NCRA Web Site:
www.NCRAonline.com

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2007

April 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 *	17	18	19	20	21 *
22	23	24	25	26	27 *	28
29	30					

May 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 *
6 *	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 *	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 *	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 *	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 *	17	18	19	20 *	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL

16

HCRA Board Meeting

21

Ethics Mini-Semi/Association Meeting
Baba Yega's

27

CRCB Certification Exam

MAY

5-6

TCRA Freelance & Firm Owners' Retreat,
Radisson Town Lake, Austin, Texas

21

HCRA Board Meeting

JUNE

4

Deadline for Newsletter articles

18

HCRA Board Meeting

JULY

16

HCRA Board Meeting

20

Annual Party/Fundraiser: Casino Night
8:00-12:00 Courtyard

AUGUST

9-12

TCRA/NCRA Joint Annual Convention
Gaylord Texan Hotel, Dallas, Texas

20

HCRA Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER

3

Deadline for Newsletter articles

17

HCRA Board Meeting

28

CRCB Certification Exam

August 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 *	10 *	11 *
12 *	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 *	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 *	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 *	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 *	29
30						

October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Do you want to submit an article?
Contact HCRA.

HOUSTON COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION ETHICS SEMINAR

TITLE: ETHICS, BE COMPLIANT

**(Official and Freelance)
(Earn .25 CEUs)**

Are you sure your record complies with the Uniform Format Manual for Texas Court Reporters? Are you confused by the rules governing how to set up your index? Do you know what the courts are looking for? Those of you whose certification expires in December 2007, this is your opportunity to clear up the confusion and get your .25 CEUs in ethics.

Enjoy the beautiful surroundings and great food at Baba Yega's for our mini-seminar on the Uniform Format Manual for Texas Court Reporters. We will be serving a light breakfast and lunch afterwards. Mimosas will be available after 12:00 noon for \$2.00 apiece. Catch up with old friends and make new ones.

SPEAKERS: Vonda Treat -- Current Ethical Dilemmas Facing Reporters Today
Lettie Witter -- (Officials) Uniform Format Manual, and
My linda Faircloth --(Freelance) Uniform Format Manual

DATE: April 21, 2007

**TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon (Mini-seminar)
12:00 Noon – 2:00 p.m.**

(Association meeting for all members, not just seminar attendees)

COST: \$40 Members
\$65 Non-members (Will make your membership current for 2007)

**PLACE: Baba Yega's
2607 Grant Street
Houston, Texas 77006
(713) 522-0042**

CRCB and NCRA (CEUs Pending)

From your Editor **Did You Know?**

For all of you die-hard Gregg Reference Manual fans out there, there is now a comprehensive index available which accompanies the latest Gregg Reference Manual, 10th Edition.

Best of all, it's free.

You can download the index at http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0072936533/student_view0/electronic_index.html.

Once downloaded, it will install on your computer and you'll have an icon on your desktop to use to access the alphabetical index. You can use the index to easily find the page and paragraph number where the rules will be found.

The electronic index is much more comprehensive than the printed index in the back of the Gregg's Manual. The website also indicates that the index will be a work in progress and urges users to check back to find the most recently updated copy.

In addition, the 10th Edition of the Gregg Reference Manual is now available on line for a yearly subscription fee. You

can access it at the website at http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0073545430/information_center_view0/.

I found this website a little difficult to navigate. I went down paths that I couldn't retrace, i.e., once I opened the on line version of the Manual, I was unable to return to the Manual's home page. The home page can be accessed at <http://www.mhhe.com/business/buscom/gregg/>.

Bill Sabin, the author/editor of Gregg Reference Manual, is friendly and approachable. The link on the home page "Ask the Author" provides an e-mail link to Sabin, who will respond to you, probably personally. He wants feedback. Most especially, he wants any errors or corrections pointed out so they can be fixed.



Wanted

Articles and Funnies

to Share of Interest to

Houston area Court

Reporters. Contact

Barbara Brock at

brockjn@earthlink.net



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member?***

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only as strong as
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CASINO NIGHT

You are cordially invited to the
Houston Court Reporters Association's
Annual Fund Raiser . . . Casino Night!

Date: **Friday, July 20, 2007**
Time: **8:00 p.m. to 12:00 Midnight**
Place: **The Courtyard at St. James Place
in the Garden Room**
Location: **1885 St. James Place**

Tickets: \$30 in advance
\$35 per person at the door

Includes:

- Valet Parking
- \$3,000 in Starter Chips
- Champagne and Wine
- Hand-passed Hors D'Oeuvres
- Dessert Bar with Fabulous Chocolate Fountain
- Chinese Auction including lots of Great Prizes!
(Need not be present to win.)

*Invitations with RSVP cards are being
mailed . . . look for them!

Casino Tables

- Blackjack
- Craps
- Roulette
- Texas Hold 'em



Reporters: Invite family, friends, neighbors, clients, judges, coworkers,
proofreaders, videographers, interpreters -- everyone! Invite your own group
for a nice evening out and meet new people, too!

Be sure to look for the Chocolate Fountain!

*If you haven't received an invitation by July 1st,
email Vonda at vpttx1@aol.com . . . or just show up on July 20th at 8:00 p.m.

The next time you're at Randalls, pick up a Remarkable Card application at the courtesy booth to fill out and link your card to our account.

Randalls will pay us a percentage of our account total, so be sure to use your card every time you shop.

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Clip out the card below and take it with you to the store as your reminder of our organization's Good Neighbor Program account number to fill in on your Remarkable card application.

HCRA's organization number is 6081.



The Objectives of the Association are:

- 1. To provide opportunity for the exchange of experiences and opinions through discussion, study and publications.**
- 2. To promote the profession of court reporting via the use of written symbols or letters and educate members and the public in the advancement, improvement and uses of court reporters.**
- 3. To develop and encourage high standards of personal and professional conduct among court reporters.**
- 4. To conduct and cooperate in courses of study for the continuing education of court reporters; to hold meetings and conferences for the mutual improvement and education of its members.**
- 5. To disseminate information relative to the functions and accomplishments of court reporters.**
- 6. To cooperate with state and national court reporter associations in the common endeavor to advance the profession of court reporting via the use of written symbols or letters.**
- 7. To cooperate with federal, state and local government for the good of the community and the court reporting profession.**

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