



# NVRA's *eV O I C E*™

Volume 10, Issue 2

February 2010

## Board News

The NVRA Board of Directors met February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in Isle of Palms, SC. All members of the Board were present. The Board's focus this year is growth and retention of membership.

The Board appended the Code of Ethics to read:

***Refrain from giving, directly or indirectly, any gift, incentive, reward or anything of value to attorneys, clients, or their representatives or agents, except for nominal items that do not exceed \$50.00 in the aggregate per recipient firm each year.***

Kim Johnson, CVR, from Odessa, FL, was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Vickie Weichec.

Becky Bazzle, CVR, is coordinating NASA (National Alliance for State Associations). There will be a meeting of NASA representatives at our annual convention this year. State Associations are requested to please send current state contact info and spring meeting information to [www.nvra.org](http://www.nvra.org).

A spring CE seminar is scheduled in Tampa, Florida on Saturday, April 24, 2010. There will be a reception Friday night, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Quorum Hotel – Tampa (700 N. Westshore Boulevard) and the seminar will be at the same hotel on Saturday.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> in Tampa, FL.

## Welcome New NVRA Members

Ann Brockington, TX  
Angela Jackson, GA  
Marleen Jennings, NC

Pamela Tew, NC  
Alisha Weathers, GA

## Captioning at the Super Bowl

On February 7, 2010, the National Football League (NFL) and CBS Corporation made history during Super Bowl XLIV : 81% of nationally broadcast commercials and network promotions were captioned from beginning to end of the game.

CBS took the unprecedented step of captioning 84% of its promotions, which are previews of upcoming television shows and other network content. Many deaf and hard of hearing people witnessed captioned movie trailers for the first time.

The NFL and CBS ensured that American Sign Language (ASL) was an integral part of the National Anthem. The signer, a senior at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, was shown on the stadium's large screen and a portion of the performance was showcased on national television.

## Testing Update

CVR-CM: NVRA will hold its first CVR-CM testing for the year on March 6-7 in both Memphis, TN, and Atlanta, GA. Download a testing packet and registration form: <http://www.nvra.org/associations/3873/files/CVR-CMMar10.pdf> The deadline to register is February 26, 2010.

Pilot RVR, RCP, RBC: The pilot testing for NVRA's Realtime Verbatim Reporter (RVR), Registered CART Provider (RCP) and Registered Broadcast Captioner (RBC) will be held February 27, 2010, in Atlanta, GA. Contact the NVRA office to register. [nvra@nvra.org](mailto:nvra@nvra.org).

## Translation Phone

Google is developing software for the first phone capable of translating foreign languages almost instantly. Utilizing voice recognition and automatic translation technologies, Google hopes to have a basic system ready within a couple of years. In the not-too-distant future, it could transform communication among speakers of the world's 6,000-plus languages.

The translation software is likely to become more accurate the more it is used. Some translation systems use crude rules based on the grammar of particular languages. Google, however, will make use of its vast database of websites and translated documents to improve the accuracy of its system.

## Spotlight on Pengad

Pengad supplies legal and court reporter supplies. Did you know that just by being a member of NVRA, Pengad offers you a discount? As long as you identify yourself as an NVRA member, you will be offered the "end column" price; meaning you get the advantage of a bulk pricing discount, no matter how much you buy. Ordering online? Then just identify yourself as "NVRA Member" in the comment line under the special instructions section at checkout. Thanks, Pengad, for supporting NVRA!



## Proofreading Tips

Since there's no one method of proofreading that works for everyone, pick and choose from the following tips and create your own method – and then follow it each time you proof a document. (*Adapted from Dan Santow's Word Wise.*)

**Proof but don't read:** When you read, you subconsciously fix the mistakes. There's a fine line between reading and proofing – stay on the right side of it.

**Tidy up your desk:** You're your own worst interrupter when things catch your eye.

**Content-ment:** Check that contents page numbers and headings match with the actual copy in the document.

**Abbreviate to alleviate:** Check that abbreviations have been defined at first use.

**Bullet proof:** Look to see that all your bulleted or numbered lists are formatted similarly.

**The dating scene:** Ensure that dates and days of the week match; if copy says Tuesday, Nov. 7, make sure Nov. 7 is a Tuesday.

**Divide and conquer:** Divide your task into several parts, completing one before starting the next.

- Check for errors in the spelling of names and places.
- Check the accuracy of phone numbers, dates, addresses, times, and amounts of money.
- Check for errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
- Check for transposed characters, omitted letters, and word division.

**Forever format:** To check formatting, scan the "edges" of the document and look for anything that doesn't look right. Then look at the overall page: Does it appear balanced? For example, is the text consistently justified or consistently left aligned? Check page numbers and footnotes.

**Hard knocks:** Always proof from a hard copy. Don't try to proof a document from your computer screen.

**A backwards glance:** To proof for spelling, read the document backwards. When each individual word is looked at, outside the context of a sentence, you're less likely to miss spelling errors. (However, reading backwards will not allow you to spot homophone errors – words that sound alike but are spelled differently: to/too/two, are/our, their/there/they're, and so on. You have to check these by skimming the paper forward.)

**Once is never enough:** After corrections have been made, proof the revised document. First check to see that all the corrections were made, then read over the document one more time to make sure you didn't miss something the first time around!

**Know thyself... and thy own typical mistakes:** Make a list of the errors you make repeatedly. Proofread for one type of error at a time. If commas are your most frequent problem, go through the paper checking just that one problem. Then proofread again for the next-most-frequent problem.

**Time on your hands:** Allow yourself some time between finishing a document and proofreading so you can return to it with a fresh mind and eye.

**Search parties:** Use the search function to find mistakes you're likely to make. Search for "it," for instance, if you confuse "its" and "it's."

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## NVRA's March Birthdays

### March 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	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			

- Women's History Month
- 14 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 15 The Ides of March
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 17 March Madness Opening Round
- 20 Spring begins
- 28 Palm Sunday
- 30 First day of Passover



1	Beverly J. Mahoney		15	Kellie K. Rodman	<a href="mailto:krodmanccr@yahoo.com">krodmanccr@yahoo.com</a>
2	Diann C. Holt	<a href="mailto:dholt@adamsandholt.com">dholt@adamsandholt.com</a>	15	Heather S. Carr	<a href="mailto:heather.carr@mchsi.com">heather.carr@mchsi.com</a>
2	Deborah S. Thomas	<a href="mailto:abactis@bellsouth.net">abactis@bellsouth.net</a>	16	John M. Kerns	<a href="mailto:rudigerandgreen@aol.com">rudigerandgreen@aol.com</a>
2	Bryan Collins	<a href="mailto:brycollins@homeofthegnome.net">brycollins@homeofthegnome.net</a>	16	Connie K. Kyle	<a href="mailto:ckkyle@msn.com">ckkyle@msn.com</a>
3	Vicki E. Smith	<a href="mailto:vsmith33@nc.rr.com">vsmith33@nc.rr.com</a>	18	Pavon S. Bohanan	<a href="mailto:pbohanan@att.net">pbohanan@att.net</a>
3	Alice S Nelson	<a href="mailto:an@prestigecourtreporting.com">an@prestigecourtreporting.com</a>	19	Lois H. Meche	<a href="mailto:mechel@bellsouth.net">mechel@bellsouth.net</a>
3	Michael Palmer	<a href="mailto:redcourtreporter@hotmail.com">redcourtreporter@hotmail.com</a>	19	Kimberly Hunnicutt	<a href="mailto:kimhunnicuttt@comcast.net">kimhunnicuttt@comcast.net</a>
4	Karen L. Long	<a href="mailto:klong3@verizon.net">klong3@verizon.net</a>	19	Rosemary T. o'rourke	<a href="mailto:rjggarland@aol.com">rjggarland@aol.com</a>
4	Michelle S Ramirez	<a href="mailto:muriel_walton@yahoo.com">muriel_walton@yahoo.com</a>	20	Richard E. Jester	<a href="mailto:richard@richardjester.com">richard@richardjester.com</a>
5	Craig S. Milus		21	Judy Comp-Sternik	<a href="mailto:judytcomp@aol.com">judytcomp@aol.com</a>
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7	Melea E. Chaney	<a href="mailto:mechaney687@yahoo.com">mechaney687@yahoo.com</a>	21	Julie M. Brackett	<a href="mailto:juliebrackett@att.net">juliebrackett@att.net</a>
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10	Jennifer Patterson	<a href="mailto:Jennifercvr@aol.com">Jennifercvr@aol.com</a>	26	Nancy J. Stone	<a href="mailto:Nancy52@aol.com">Nancy52@aol.com</a>
11	Cara Leigh V. Richardson	<a href="mailto:cvr@prestigecourtreporting.com">cvr@prestigecourtreporting.com</a>	27	Kimberley S. Johnson	<a href="mailto:KGJJTS@aol.com">KGJJTS@aol.com</a>
13	Ralph D. Mills	<a href="mailto:millsrpt@verizon.net">millsrpt@verizon.net</a>	29	Linda Stockman	<a href="mailto:lstockman@bellsouth.net">lstockman@bellsouth.net</a>
13	Terri R. Cheslock	<a href="mailto:TRCHESLOCK@aol.com">TRCHESLOCK@aol.com</a>	29	Colette Y Wayda	<a href="mailto:colette.wayda@browncollege.com">colette.wayda@browncollege.com</a>
13	Julie Brown	<a href="mailto:julierbrown@comcast.net">juliebrown@comcast.net</a>	29	Lori A. Adams	<a href="mailto:adamssccr@bellsouth.net">adamssccr@bellsouth.net</a>
14	Wanda S. Nelson	<a href="mailto:wnelson@sccourts.org">wnelson@sccourts.org</a>	31	Marcial Torres-Soto	<a href="mailto:matorressoto@gmail.com">matorressoto@gmail.com</a>
14	Karen C Vornkahl	<a href="mailto:karen@brscr.com">karen@brscr.com</a>	31	Dee A. Michaels	<a href="mailto:ashevillereporting@charter.net">ashevillereporting@charter.net</a>
15	Sue Hatley	<a href="mailto:sue_hatley@wvnd.uscourts.gov">sue_hatley@wvnd.uscourts.gov</a>	31	Emily A Hulley	<a href="mailto:ehulley331@aol.com">ehulley331@aol.com</a>

## Proofreading Tips ..... continued

**Circle back:** Circle or highlight every punctuation mark. This forces you to look at each one.

**Avoid interruptions:** Turn off your BlackBerry. Forward your phone to voice mail. Turn off your iPod. Put down the Red Bull. Don't check blogs. Stop IMing and texting your family and friends.

**Color my world:** Use a colored pen so your corrections stand out.

**Cap and trade:** SEPARATELY PROOF ANY TEXT THAT APPEARS IN ALL CAPS AND DO IT MORE PAINSTAKINGLY. TYPOS AND MISSPELLINGS ARE MORE DIFFICULT TO SEE IN ALL CAPS.

**Double, double, toil and trouble:** Double check:

- fonts that are unusual (*italic*, **bold**, or **otherwise different**)
- proper names
- little words: "or," "of," "it," and "is" are often interchanged
- every number – dollar amounts, dates, page references, percentages, etc.

## Nuance Acquires MacSpeech

Nuance Communications announced this week that it has acquired MacSpeech, the leading provider of speech recognition solutions for Apple Macintosh computers. MacSpeech, based in San Francisco, makes general-use programs and ones designed specifically for the medical and legal fields.

Nuance hopes to accelerate the growth opportunity for MacSpeech products by adding additional research and development support, Dragon brand recognition, marketing support, and distribution channels.

## 2010 Convention in Charleston, SC ~ *The Magic of Realtime!*

Mark your calendar for NVRA's Annual Convention, July 28-31, in Charleston, SC! This year's convention hotel HQ will be at the Doubletree Suites in historic downtown Charleston. NVRA room rates are available at a deeply discounted rate of \$135 per night.



The **Doubletree Guest Suites Charleston-Historic District**, at the corner of **Church and Market Streets**, enjoys the most excellent location in the **Charleston Historic District**, next to Charleston's **City Market**. Our friendly Charleston, South Carolina hotel, featuring the largest one or two-bedroom suites in Historic Charleston, is steps from famed restaurants, King Street boutiques, antebellum mansions, "Rainbow Row," Waterfront Park, Charleston's High Battery, historic homes and gardens, theatres, carriage rides and more. Charleston International Airport, easily accessible via I-26, is only 20 minutes away.

The Doubletree offers flexible accommodations with one king or two double beds in the master bedroom, and a full adjoining living room with a sleeper-sofa, perfect for entertaining and visiting with family and friends. Each suite offers an elegant granite topped wet bar with a refrigerator, two televisions, dual phone lines, and wireless internet access.