

Spring 2018 Convention

The spring convention will be held April 7th, 2018 at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, Wisconsin. We have a great lineup of speakers. We hope you can join us!

Kicking off our spring convention will be Judge Marc Hammer. Judge Hammer is one of the drug court judges in Brown County, Wisconsin. The Drug Court Program was started in 2009. Drug Courts are built upon a unique partnership between the criminal justice system and drug treatment community, one that structures treatment intervention around the authority and personal involvement of a Drug Court Judge. Drug Courts are also dependent upon the creation of a non-adversarial courtroom atmosphere where a judge and a dedicated team of court officers and staff work together toward a common goal of breaking the cycle of drug/alcohol abuse and criminal behavior.

With his quick wit and enamorous speaking ability, be prepared to hear how Judge Hammer's dynamic personality crosses over into his drug treatment court assignment.



Come listen to our very own Geri Schrab, District 7 Floater out of LaCrosse and co-author of *Hidden Thunder: Rock Art of the Upper Midwest*. Geri is an award-winning watercolor artist whose sole artistic focus is American Indian rock art sites.

We all have painful stories that we hear. It's inevitable, it's part of our job (and life). Court reporting is not unique in the sense that those in many other professions must find ways to cope with second-hand trauma. Depending on our unique dispositions, we all handle this aspect of our profession in different ways.

Art and court reporting seems disparate at first blush, but for me they go hand-in-hand. Since the mid-'90s and a string of intense cases, I have been hypersensitive to violence. It's taken me two decades to recognize the legitimacy of the effects of second-hand trauma, the emotional toll of silently absorbing sometimes inhumane stories. Painting was my medicine. I paint to heal myself. I paint to have a voice in the

world. I paint to infuse beauty, shed light on ancient cultures, and memorialize that history for others to learn from. That is how I transform what I have come to recognize as second-hand trauma. By acknowledging how these hard stories affect me, and addressing it in a positive way, I am able to embrace and more fully enjoy the honor of court reporting.

Join us for this fascinating topic!



You asked for a speaker who can educate us on financial planning, and you got it! Join us in welcoming Neelam Davison to our lineup of speakers at our spring convention. Neelam is a lawyer, licensed to practice law in Wisconsin since 1984. She has been in the financial services/estate planning industry for over 25 years. Neelam holds series 7 and series 66 licenses with FINRA. She is a Registered Representative with Woodbury Financial Services, Inc. and a Registered Investment Advisor Representative. Neelam is a Certified Long-Term Care Specialist and also holds Life and Health Insurance Licenses. Active membership in professional organizations such as the National, State, and Local Bar Associations and NAIFA (National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors) help Neelam stay current on financial, tax, and legal issues. She provides tremendous value to her clients by constantly educating them and sharing with them any tax law changes or other relevant changes in the financial industry.

Neelam works with local Estate Planning attorneys and accountants to assist their clients with financial/estate planning.

Neelam will be educating our members on the following topics: income tax-free retirement planning and overall retirement income planning; protecting your assets and income; managing your risks in the stock market; social security; and long-term care

planning.



We hope you can join us in welcoming Chris Prust to our spring convention. Chris was born with a hearing loss. She has worn hearing aids for 32 years and in November of 2013 received a cochlear implant. Her first experience with the hearing loop came when a loop was installed in her church in 2009. That day changed her life forever. It was the first time she was clearly able to understand the spoken word. Chris is a retired social worker who spent five years working for a community agency and 27 years as a social worker in an institution. While in these roles, she had the opportunity to testify in court numerous times. What Chris learned through these experiences is courtrooms are not built for the person with a hearing loss. She has been very active in the Hearing Loss Association of America having served as vice president of both the local and state chapters. Hear how she sees the value of CART at every single HLAA meeting they hold. Added bonus: WCRA Member Margo Lucas will be captioning Chris's presentation!



Back by popular demand, Rory Thelen and Dean Bryan of the Wisconsin Correctional Association will be wrapping up our spring convention in Appleton. Dean and Rory captivated our members at Lakeshore Technical College last April with their seminar on Crisis Rehearsal. We got such great feedback on them from our members that we asked them to come back and motivate us once again. Come and listen to this Dynamic Duo and see why everyone loved them so much last year!

What Motivates/Inspires You to Make a Difference? Each morning when you wake up, say to yourself, it is I, not the events that occur today, that has the power and the choice to make "Me" happy today. The quality of your life is in direct proportion to your commitment to excellence, regardless of your chosen field of endeavor. In order to succeed in your job, you must know what you are doing, like what you are doing, and believe in what you are doing. **The Reward is the Journey!**

