

The Growl -- January 2000



The Growl Speaks with Kay Reindl, Instructor in Court Reporting

Soon after she completed high school in Michigan, Kay Reindl set off on a course across the country. California was her final destination. She eventually settled in Fortuna (Humboldt County), attended College of the Redwoods, completed the court reporting program, received her A.A. degree, and earned her CSR license. Kay was among the first group of students to enroll in the college's court reporting program.

"As is the case for many court reporting students, it took me four years to complete the program and pass the test. And not unlike many court reporting students, I was ready for a break upon completion. The program's founder was a woman who was a true professional in every sense of the word. She motivated and influenced me in many ways. I was privileged to work as her assistant while in school. This experience showed me how rewarding teaching could be."

You received your license . . . What happened next?

"During this time my husband and I were married. We moved to Sacramento where he was to complete his education at California State University. Because I was unable to secure a full-time job in the courts at that time and my husband was a full-time student, I took a stenographer position with a civil service contractor at the Sacramento Army Depot. Actually, I needed a break from that machine anyway. Two years later, we started a family, and I was able to stay home for a year with our first daughter. Then it was time to get out that machine! I located a school where I was hoping to barter my dictation skills for the chance to sit in on their dictation classes. Soon, I was offered a full-time teaching position. At the time, it was more lucrative than practicing on my machine, so I chose the path of least resistance."

How did you become a Humphreys College Instructor?

"When my husband was transferred to Stockton, we began to look for a home in between Sacramento and Stockton. We settled in Lodi -- a town more our size. I knew Humphreys College had a court reporting program, and I had met Maria Stahl (Humphreys College's former program director) through the program director at College of the Redwoods. As luck would have it, there was soon a position open for me here at Humphreys. That was ten years ago..."

What do you like about the teaching profession?

"I feel that teaching has enabled me to utilize my interests and my knowledge in a very rewarding way. It was my interest in the legal system that first attracted me to court reporting. I can truly empathize with the struggles that are unique to court reporting students. It is such a thrill to accompany the students to the state exam and see their smiling faces when they appear from the testing room! I am motivated by the perseverance many of our students exhibit while completing the program. It inspires me to inspire others. It's actually a selfish thing - I receive many rewards from doing what I do!"

Do you see court reporting as a viable profession?

"In the many years I have been involved in this field, I have never seen the variety of career opportunities and the availability of positions that exist today. The emergence of 'realtime' writing and the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act have created new career opportunities for machine shorthand writers. It is ironic that during this time of abundant career opportunities, enrollments in court reporting programs all across the country are down."

What do you do for fun, outside the school?

"Most of my activities away from work revolve around my two daughters and their schools and numerous activities. I keep busy serving on committees and boards at church and at my children's schools. At home, I enjoy gardening. It makes no difference whether it's planting flowers, trimming trees, or pulling weeds - it's all great therapy to me! I also enjoy walking and taking family camping trips, preferably along the coast."

Would you be willing to share your life credo?

"Always pay back more than you borrow. Always give more than you take. Do all things in moderation."

~Stanislav Perkner



Holiday Date Change

The President's Day holiday is incorrectly listed as Monday, February 14 on the course schedule. The actual observed school holiday is Monday, February 21.

Scholarships on the WWW

Lance Hall, Registrar

Current articles exist touting the availability of scholarship money on the Internet, and undoubtedly there will be many more to come. I briefly reviewed the following sites and want to share them with you.

An estimated \$50 to \$60 billion in loans and grants are available through private and government sources. Students can use the Net as a financial aid and scholarship research tool. Of course, winning scholarship dollars and financial aid is never a sure thing, no matter how you conduct your search. The trick is to remain optimistic and be persistent. A student who is turned down one year might become eligible the next year when a brother or sister enrolls in college or when they take a particular job.

Chinook College Funding Service www.chinook.com

CollegeNET www.collegenet.com

FinAid www.finaid.com

GoCollege www.gocollege.com

College Board Online www.collegeboard.org

fastWEB www.fastweb.com

FreSch! www.freschinfo.com

Scholarship Resource Network Express www.srnexpress.com

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