

An Occasional Newsletter From Caption Nerds

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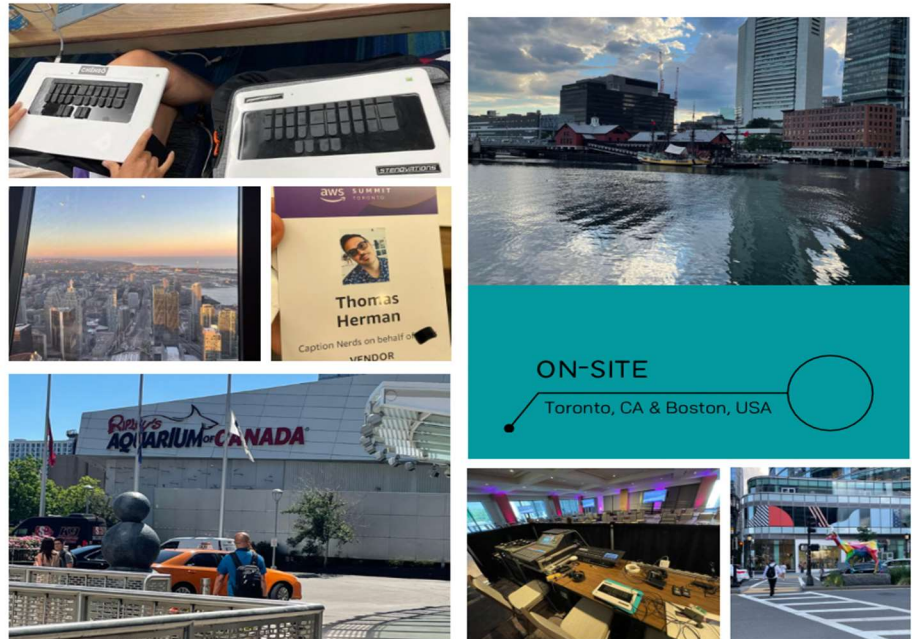


Image description: A collage of steno machines, cityscapes, conference settings, busy streets and skyscrapers from Caption Nerds on-site work in both Toronto, CA and Boston, Massachusetts US

On-Site Vs. Remote: Your Options

By Thomas Herman

“Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many our people need it sorely on these accounts.” -Mark Twain

After years on meeting platforms, dialing in, and other pandemic-era new normal experiences, remote versus on-site seems to be a hot-button topic for many. Whether your organization is team remote, team on-site, or a hybrid model, Caption Nerds is here for you.

Some things to consider when deciding what the fit is best for your event: On-site incurs travel costs, but also allows more direct access of the captioner to the client, and allows the captioners more direct access to your team, including you're A/V and tech teams at the venue, allows for testing acoustics and determine the best place to hear and caption from, removes connectivity and remote tech issues (we've all been there) and on-site service allows for sedentary and walking service. Yes, **Thomas can walk and caption** for tours,

breakout rooms, et cetera, which would allow the consumer freedom to walk around an event as they'd like.

Remote CART is still a great option, and just requires a little work from the client at their location to ensure the captioners are remotely set up and can hear and see clearly in order to facilitate accurate captions. Remote captions may be a perfect fit if A, everyone is virtual with the same sound feed, or B the on-site staff is willing to ensure speakers are mic'd for the captioner to hear and share slides for reference.

If you're an accommodation specialist, event planner, client or prospective client that would like to discuss the pros and cons of both options to see what's your best fit please reach out to thomas@captionnerds.com to schedule a meeting.

Keep in mind while Caption Nerds, LLC is a proudly small business, we are well-networked within the captioning industry with a diverse group of colleagues and can scale up for larger events, allowing multiple captioners for breakout rooms, or multiple individuals at one event that request individual accommodations.



Image description: A picture of an AWS Summit sign for attendees that require accessibility accommodations available for registration from a recent event Thomas helped support as part of a four-person captioning team.



Image description: An image of the dinner view from the CT Tower in Toronto, with the skyline and water views in the background.



Image description: Dark background with colorful buttons with white text: Button the content design conference

Button 2022 Is Near

Courtesy Of Team Button*

Come find your people at Button.

Join content design friends from all over the world at Button, happening both in person and online this October! No matter how you join us, you'll get to:

Attend our main-stage program, broadcast live from Seattle (with professional captioners captioning the main-stage feeds, thanks Caption Nerds!)

Hang out with attendees and speakers in the Button Slack workspace.

Watch all on-demand talks and recordings for a full year after the event. Those not in the know, Button is a hybrid event about content design and UX writing. If you care about making content in digital products and services better for everyone, then Button is where you belong!

Button will happen live in Seattle and online October 10-12, 2022.

*An aside from Thomas of Caption Nerds: I suggest anyone who writes for a business or organization, social media, is an accommodations specialist, works in DEI, is a content creator, or anyone intrigued by making inclusive language part of your culture, consider attending. The link for more info is at: [Program - Button: The content design conference \(buttonconf.com\)](https://buttonconf.com)

Button/Caption Nerds Exclusive Promo Code!

By Caption Nerds & Team Button

Folks, as Caption Nerds' little newsletter keeps growing, we're trying to keep the momentum going with more varied content for our various followers, and drum roll please...

Our first-ever coupon! The Tea is hot!



Image description: a steaming hot cup of tea on a placemat

Button: The Content Design Conference is Almost Here!

This October, content designers and UX writers from around the world will gather (online and in Seattle) for three days of learning and fun. At its core, content design is all about creating inclusive product experiences that can be used by all. Caption Nerds is excited to team up with Team Button to provide captioning to make conference sessions accessible to attendees.

If you care about making content in digital products and services better for everyone, then Button is where you belong! **Use my special promo code `CAPTION100` to save \$100 on your in-person or virtual ticket.**

Some Button speakers will include:

Emily Atwater, Netflix

Vidhika Bansal, Intuit

Jonathon Colman, HubSport

Jordan Craig, Twitter

Haley Donoughe, Upwork

Sarah Etter, Procode

Rebecca Evanhoe, Pratt Institute

Mario Ferrer, Shopify

Alana Fialkoff, Match

Carly Gray, Meta

Kati Grega, Sovos

Kristina Halvorson, Brain Traffic

Erica Jorgensen, Slack

Jen Kim, ServiceNow

Samuel Marc, Speak UX!

And many, many more...

On-Site Set Pictures

By Caption Nerds

Thomas recently traveled to Boston for a client he's worked remotely with since 2020, and it was wonderful to meet virtual friends in person and meet new ones. The following picture is an example of the on-site set using CART captions via StreamText and VMIX to overlay captions. This was an easy fast set up for open captions.



Image description: A large LCD screen in a conference room with captions test overlayed on a mountain range with the captions: Right. Okay. So captions are looking good. Perfect. I love it. Already.



Image description: Folks Signing

Leveling Up: What's New For Clients

By Caption Nerds

Caption Nerds has some fun new things for clients to ease the accommodation process even more! We now offer **QR codes** to access captions faster than typing in a URL. We have committed **pro bono hours** for some of our nonprofit clients. We are offering both **mixed case** and all caps, giving client's more control over their captions and deployment. As always, our captions are always compatible with most **screen readers**.

In Memory Of Lisa Lancaster

By Thomas Herman

As a small business owner, I often grapple with how personal or corporate I want my brand to be.

After some thought, I've decided to pay tribute to my dear friend, Lisa.

Lisa was a force of joy and made everyone feel seen and welcomed. She welcomed almost everyone to join a table, join a beach day, or move over at a bar to accommodate another.

She was a friend, cheerleader, sounding board, and staple in many people's lives and she'll be missed but never gone from us.

If you or someone you love has been impacted by cancer, there are wonderful resources available at www.cancer.org



Image description: A photo of three people smiling on a beach, the late Lisa Lancaster is on the right-hand side with blonde hair

Stenographer's Corner & Accessibility News

By Caption Nerds

The National Court Reporters Association is reporting that Doug Zweizig, RDR, CRR won both the Speed and Realtime Contest trophies during their 2022 convention. Doug is the first person of color to win either contest, literally **historic!** Congratulations, Mr. Zweizig!

Grammy-winning rock band Coldplay, via their official website, has announced that they want **inclusivity on their tour**, and are offering sign language, assistive technology for both the D/deaf community and Blind/low vision community as well, they even have a public-facing e-mail address to request specific requests! Let's hope other major tours will follow their lead. Call me, Coldplay LOL.

Congratulations to Phipps Reporting, a nationwide steno-only court reporting firm for being #150 on Inc. Magazine's regional list. Phipps is a woman-owned business that only offers the gold standard, stenographers, to their clients in the legal community. Congratulations to Phipps Reporting!

Did you know September is now officially **Deaf Awareness Month** and September 20th is the kicks off International Week Of The Deaf. It's a great time to support the D/deaf and HOH community's artist and businesses! I'll share my current favorite D/deaf celebrities: [deafiesindrag](https://www.instagram.com/deafiesindrag) via Instagram and YouTube always makes me smile or laugh out loud.

About Us

Caption Nerds is a Miami-based boutique firm providing captions from everything from conferences, workplace meetings, academic settings, parties, cruise ships, webinars, nonprofit meetings, and more for the private and public sectors.

Caption Nerds is a proud member of [the Miami-Dade Gay Lesbian Chamber Of Commerce \(MDGLCC\)](#) and is a [LGBTQ+ owned business](#).



***Proud Member**

Image description: A photo of the MDGLCC's logo, a sunny tropical themed logo

Thomas Herman, owner, and lead captioner, is a stenographer with a specialty in realtime captions for the D/deaf HOH and neurodiverse communities that seek CART captions as a reasonable accommodation. He has been captioning full-time since 2016. He is a professional member of the National Court Reporters Association.

The Oscar-winning CODA movie, if you haven't already seen it, is an amazing choice for movie night as well! Tell us your favorite D/deaf HOH news or entrainment happenings in the comments section!

Did you know there's a nationwide shortage of qualified stenographers for legal and accommodation settings? If you're intrigued, the National Court Reporters Association has a free A to Z program to provide an overview of core concepts so folks can see if steno is a good fit for them before enrolling in courses. [Click Here](#) for the website.