

Indiana Abstract

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President Message Cassie Nobbe, CTR

Hello, Everyone,

This year has been a big year for ICRA. The Board of Directors and specifically, Lisa LaGue (our Education Chair) took a leap of faith and tackled co-hosting Regional Meetings. I believe we have learned a lot this year and hope to continue to partner with other organizations to provide more educational opportunities in the future.

ICRA's annual Fall Conference is just around the corner on November 3-4th. This year's theme is Connect, Collaborate, Educate. Registrations were sent via an ICRA Broadcast e-mail, mailed to those listed as active members and placed on our website. Please feel free to share this information with anyone who is currently not an active member of our organization. Remember your membership runs from April 1 of the current year to March 31 of the next year.

Currently, ICRA has not secured a way to accept payment other than in the form of cash or check. Please remember to have your registration postmarked no later than October 13th to not be charged a late fee. If you are a lucky member whose employer pays for your registration, but is worried we will not receive it in a timely fashion, please contact me ahead of time. All registrations will be confirmed via an e-mail. All checks will be deposited within two weeks of receipt.

The nomination period for the 2016 Distinguished Member Award is now closed. Thank you to the members who took the time to nominate a fellow registrar.

President Elect/Audit Committee Chair, Claudia Jenkins, CTR

The venue and the dates for the **2017 Fall Conference** have been set and the deposit has been paid. The Conference will be held at the Palms Conference Center (formerly Primos), in Plainfield Indiana on November 9 and 10, **2017**. We have also made arrangements with a Hotel in close proximity to the conference center for convenience if you plan to stay overnight. There is also an abundance of other hotels in the area, as well as restaurants and shopping. As we near the conference, we will share that information, just in case you would need it.

Our Program Chair for next year is Sherry Dowling, CTR. She has already started the planning for the Conference. If there is a topic of interest, please pass that along to Sherry or me. I will get it to Sherry so that it could be taken under consideration. Please keep in mind that in order to obtain CE credits for the presentation it must meet NCRA requirements in one or more of the following objectives:

- A. Presents current knowledge in the field of oncology.
- B. Develops cancer registry skills, e.g. abstracting, coding, and follow-up.
- C. Enhances the basic knowledge of the registrar, e.g. anatomy, treatment, staging.
- D. Enhances Cancer Registrar management expertise, e.g. case finding, American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer program requirements.

We look forward to another successful year for ICRA. If there is anything that we can help you with, please don't hesitate to contact me or someone else on the Board. We would be glad to assist you if we could.

Vice President, Joann Schultz, RHIT, CTR

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. Congratulations to the following ICRA members who have passed the CTR exam Sonya Freeman, Mary Sokolowski & Kristin Wennerstrom. Please mark your calendars for the upcoming NCRA Annual Meetings. April 5th thru the 8th 2017 at the Gaylord National, Washington DC, May 20th thru the 23rd 2018 at the Sheraton New Orleans, New Orleans LA & May 19th thru the 22nd 2019 at the Sheraton Denver Downtown, Denver, CO.

Ways & Means Update:

After the very hot & humid summer I am looking forward to fall. Once again we will hold a silent auction at the Fall Conference. If you would like to donate an item please let me know. We will also host Dining to Donate both Wednesday & Thursday evenings. Watch your e-mail for further details. If you live in Indianapolis please invite your friends & co-workers to join us for dinner one evening. Just a reminder the profit from both the silent auction & dining to donate fund the NCRA Scholarship as well as the free registration to the Fall Conference. Without your support both would not be possible. Looking forward to seeing you at the Fall Conference.

Treasurer, Sherry Dowling, CTR

Indiana Cancer Registrars Association				
Quarter 1: Fiscal Year 2016-2017				
Beginning Balance				\$ 12,719.75
	April	May	June	
Income:				
Membership	\$ 270.00	\$550.00	\$350.00	\$ 1,170.00
Outstanding Check #1174 (rewrite for #1139)			\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Total Income:	\$ 270.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$ 1,370.00
Expense:				
Website Mainance (Vessio)	\$ 49.99	\$ 49.99	\$ 49.99	\$ 149.97
Website Revision/Mainance (4q2015 -ck#1205)		\$304.97		\$304.97
Mileage - Board		\$327.10		\$327.10
Event Helper/liability Insurance (OH Regional)	\$161.39			\$161.39
Parkview Mirro Ctr (OH Rregional Revenue)		\$1,831.89		\$1,831.89
OH Regional Speakers		\$1,861.59		\$1,861.59
State Workshop snacks		\$36.87		\$36.87
Total Expense:	\$161.39	\$4,362.42	\$0.00	\$4,523.81
Ending Balance				\$9,415.97
Balance Savings Account				\$10,146.75
CD				\$ 10,110.61
Total Assets for ICRA as of 6/30/2016				\$29,673.33
Outstanding checks: #1202 (\$72.40)				
Respectfully submitted by:				
Sherry Dowling, CTR				
ICRA Treasurer				

Education Committee Chair, Lisa LaGue, CTR

“The Happy Couple, Mr. Right & Mrs. Always Right”

These words are on a magnet that hangs on my refrigerator. It never fails to make me smile when I see it.

I suspect I am not the only wife who secretly longs to be the winner when it comes to disagreements with her better half, but for me, this strong desire to always be right is limited to interactions with my husband. In all other aspects of my life, I can accept that I am not always right, that I don’t know everything, but... I HATE being wrong.

It’s an innate human characteristic to dislike making mistakes, but not everyone reacts the same way to being wrong. I’ve met plenty of individuals who hate being wrong but cannot accept they are not always right. I’m often amused by the responses these individuals give rather than simply confess they made an error or did not know what was correct.

Because I am a cancer registry educator and trainer, many registrars ask me questions since they consider me to be an “expert” with all things cancer registry related (their word, not mine). While I appreciate the accolade, I will never claim to be an expert at anything. This is because there is always something to learn, whether it is something new or something old that I didn’t understand correctly the first time around. It’s the reason **continuing** education is required.

The main reason I continue to serve as a cancer registry educator and trainer is because I enjoy learning and I enjoy sharing my learning experiences with others. For almost two years now, I have been focused on transitioning away from Collaborative Stage to directly assigning SEER Summary Stage and AJCC Stage. The transition process started with me attending multiple training webinars so I would be able to effectively train others and it has continued with me studying the same training materials so I can be even more effective in training others.

Since I do hate being wrong, transitioning away from Collaborative Stage has been more difficult than I anticipated. Without having CS derived stages available, I’ve learned I have a lot more to learn about directly assigning AJCC Stage. I’ve learned my interpretation of AJCC rules has been incorrectly influenced by CS rules. Since CS was first required in 2004, that means I’ve been wrong for way too long.

I’m confessing this to you for two reasons. First, to encourage you to confess a mistake or misunderstanding. Mistakes provide learning opportunities. For 2016, workshops were focused on areas I needed additional training. For 2017, I would like to focus workshops on areas most beneficial for you. Send an email to me, at lisa.lague@comcast.net,

explaining a mistake you made, a rule you misunderstood, or an area of registry operations that you would like included in training workshops. Each person who sends a “confession” will be entered in a drawing for a prize donated by myself. I will draw the winning name during the ICRA Fall Conference (attendance is encouraged but will not be required to win).

The second reason for my confession is to once again promote the AJCC Curriculum for Registrars. This series of self-instructional modules is an excellent resource available for free to everyone. I've worked through each module multiple times and have increased my knowledge each time. The modules can be found at

<https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Registrar/Pages/AJCC-Curriculum.aspx>. If you have not reviewed these modules, I strongly encourage you to do so. These modules were developed using the 7th edition of the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual. The 8th edition will be effective in just a few months but do not use that as excuse to not work through the modules. The modules cover general staging concepts and special rules which will still be applicable to the 8th edition.

Always right. While it would be nice to always be right, I can accept that I'm not. What about you? Do you hate being wrong? Can you accept your mistakes? Can you admit you don't know everything? Learn from my example. Don't rely on what you think you know. Be willing to discover if you are making mistakes. Work through the staging modules. You might discover you don't know as much as you think you do. It's the reason **continuing** education is required.

Public Relations/ IHIMA Liaison, Brandy Lewis, CTR

Public Relations Update:

Reminder: Please contact Public Relations if you know of any member who has lost a loved one from their immediate family. ICRA would like to assure them of our genuine concern and support.

We would like to emphasize that the Public Relations Committee always welcomes ideas for the newsletter and encourage articles from you, the membership. You don't need to be on the Board to submit an article. Let's hear from you!

IHIMA Update:

The Indiana Health Information Management Association will hold their annual conference at Ivy Tech Corporate College and Culinary Center in Indianapolis, IN on May 8-10, 2017. “Together Towards Tomorrow”.

Membership, Martha A. Hill, CTR, AAS

The 2016 ICRA Membership drive was very successful. While we did not meet our goal of 100 members; we were very close achieving 98 members. This is an increase in membership of 10 members from 2015. Please join me in welcoming eleven new members to our association: **Cheryl Barnett RHIT**, Pinnacle Hospital, **Kellie Christ**, Methodist Hospital, **Sonya Freeman**, Navion Healthcare Solutions, **Leigh Ann Hayes**, Community Hospital Anderson, **Amy Knip**, Pinnacle Hospital, **Anglea Koszyk**, Community Health Network, **Samantha Kunz**, Hendricks Regional Hospital, **Olga Margoskiy-Preston**, IU Health Bloomington, **Beth Otto**, IU Health Goshen, **Deanna Christine Parot**, Community Hospital and **Mary Sokolowski**, Parkview Health Systems. We would also like to note eight past members who reinstated their membership in 2016: **Lynne Conrad**, St Joe's Ann Arbor Hospital, **Dawn DeBolt**, Registry Partners, **Judy Libera**, Elkhart General Hospital, **Amy Logan**, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital, **Debra Seibert**, Deaconess Health System, **Michael Sheean**, Hendricks Regional Health, **Kim Tupin**, Mary's Hospital, and **Valerie Vesich**, Oncolog

Being a member of ICRA, gives an abundance of resources by virtue of networking with other registrars. I have made and continue to make so many friends and learn by the knowledge of networking with my fellow ICRA members. What a great tool to have in your work strongbox but fellow registrars who understand what you do with have a wealth of knowledge that they are excited to share.

The program committee continues working hard to prepare for our upcoming Annual Fall Conference. This year, we will be to trialing something different and to see how it is received. Within your conference packets, a membership application for the 2016-2017 membership drive will be included. The hope is that you will complete the application and pay your membership dues during conference or you will post the application somewhere that you will be reminded to pay your dues during the beginning of 2017. While this may not eliminate you receiving a reminder notice during the membership drive, we are hoping that it will encourage members to stay active within their association. Remember that membership dues finance the running of your organization. Funds from other committees such as ways and means are used to finance projects such as educational offerings and scholarships to NCRA and ICRA.

I hope to see you all in Indianapolis November 3rd and 4th. Let's have a fun time receiving education and networking.

ISDH Liaison, Laura Ruppert, MHA

Just a reminder, the Indiana State Cancer Registry (ISCR) purchased the 2016-2017 North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) webinar series. This series is available at no cost to individual certified tumor registrars. If you would like more information, please contact Marsha Lundy at 317-233-7158.

Indiana received both the Registry of Distinction award from the NPCR and the Gold Standard award from NAACCR. This allows Indiana's data to be included in both the *Cancer Incidence in North America* and *United States Cancer Statistics* publications.

Steve Nygaard, ISCR programmer, retired at the end of June 2016. The ISCR welcomes Padmini Pasam to the role of programmer. Ms. Pasam had the benefit of working alongside her predecessor for one month prior to his retirement.

The ISCR is finishing up its Death Clearance process to ready data for November's Call for Data.

The Cancer Surveillance Section Director, Laura Ruppert, and Health Education and Communications Director, Dawn Swindle presented, *Using Cancer Registry Data to Enhance Comprehensive Cancer Control Communication Efforts and Populating Hospital Cancer Registry Data into Survivorship Care Plans: A Test Run*, at the National Cancer Registrars Association (NCRA) annual conference held in Las Vegas, NV, April 10-14, 2016.

The ISCR participated in the first regional cancer registry meeting between Indiana and Ohio in Ft. Wayne, IN, on May 25, 2016. The focus of this meeting was lung cancer.

Cancer Early Detection Director, Kate Tewanger, Cancer Surveillance Section Director, Laura Ruppert, both at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), along with Evaluator, Cynthia Cunningham, from Community Solutions, Inc., presented a poster at the 2016 NAACCR annual conference, June 11-16, 2016, held in St. Louis, MO, entitled, *Using Geographic Information Systems to Analyze Data to Expand the Reach of the Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IN-BCCP)*.

ISDH representatives presented to partners in Public Health Districts 1 & 2 on June 27, 2016, regarding respective regional cancer burdens.

The ISCR hosted the 2016 Rocky Mountain Cancer Data System's 2016 annual meeting in Indianapolis, IN, August 31-September 1, 2016.

The Kentucky Cancer Registry, Indiana Cancer Registrars Association, and the Indiana Cancer Consortium (ICC) collaborated on the first Kentucky-Indiana Regional Cancer Registrars Meeting held in Louisville, KY, September 8-9, 2016. Laura Ruppert, Cancer Surveillance Section Director, presented at this meeting.

The ISDH Cancer Sections collaborated on four poster presentations at the Indiana Public Health Conference held in Indianapolis, IN, on September 15, 2015:

- *Strategies to Improve the Quality and Duration of Life Among Cancer Survivors at Hancock Regional Cancer Center*; Linda Zerr, RN, and Emily Jones, BS
- *Strategies to Improve the Quality and Duration of Life Among Cancer Survivors at St. Vincent Cancer Care*; Missy Andres, BSN, RN, OCN, Jane Berby-Todd, MHA, RT (R)(T), and Emily Jones, BS
- *Using Cancer Data to Educate Partners About the State's Cancer Burden*; Dawn Swindle, BS, and Laura Ruppert, MHA
- *Using Geographic Information Systems to Analyze Data to Expand the Reach of the Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IN-BCCP)*; Kate Tewanger, MPA, Cynthia Cunningham, BS, and Laura Ruppert, MHA

The ISDH Cancer Sections and ICC submitted an abstract, *How Indiana's Use of Cancer Registry Data Guides Planning, Marketing, Education and Needs Assessments*, to the NCRA for their 2017 annual conference, which will be held April 5-8, 2017, in Washington, DC. Acceptance is pending.



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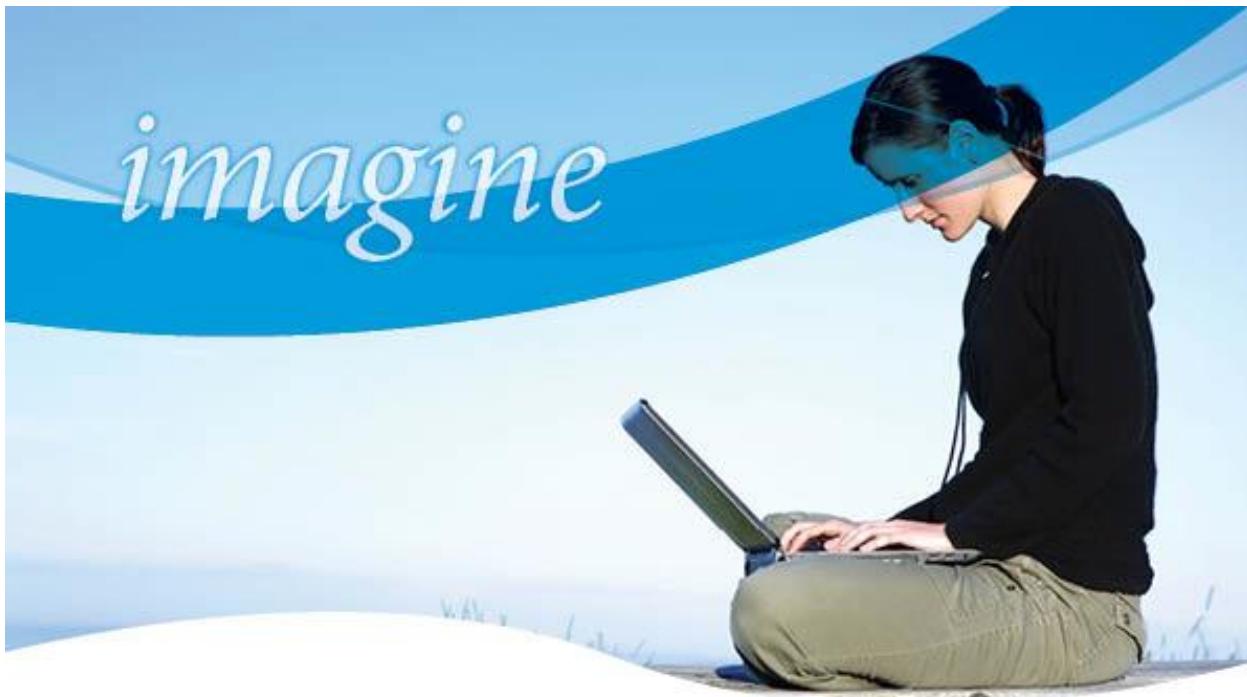
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