



Cancer Registrar Chronicle



Hello ArCRA members! The regional conference in Branson was a success. I want to thank my executive committee members and chair persons who worked very hard. It was a true collaborative effort by all. Jen Fielding and Melissa Riddle were on the education committee. The ways and means chair, Amy Greer, did a fabulous job with the raffle items for the Lucy Utterback scholarship fund. The scholarship committee chair, Renee' Webb, granted seven scholarships; five awardees attended the conference. Secretary Karyn Cramer and Treasurer Sharon DeRamus were also an integral part of the scholarships and keeping the ArCRA finances secure.

There were approximately 22 ArCRA members who attend-

ed the conference and a guestimate total of 180 cancer registrars from all four states. The speakers were great, the food was fab (you all know how I love to eat), there were endless networking opportunities with other state registrars, etc., etc., etc. Each state made a basket to raffle and each state had their own W&M's money-making items. ArCRA raffled a "Pampered Chef" state basket, a Kindle Fire, and Tammy Newman donated a basket that contained a Nook, bubble bath, and wine. Thank you again Tammy! MOSTRA organized an outing to attend a show

called "Six". Six brothers harmonized without any instruments and we had a ball!

Some announcements: La-Shonda Wert is the newly appointed ACCR/ArCRA liaison. Welcome La-Shonda! Another important announcement is that next years' fall education conference will be held at Baxter Regional Medical Center in Mountain Home. Karyn Cramer has graciously accepted to be our host. Thank you Karyn!

Well, that's all for now. Everyone stay safe, be appreciative of every day we are given, and thank our Creator for our health and loved ones.

If I have any more important news to share, I'll send out a blast email.

Cynthia Gulley, CTR
2013-2015 ArCRA President

About YOU!



Reece Michael Whittemore son of Cora and Michael born August 6, 2014



Heather Morris passed her CTR! Yeah! Way to go Heather.

ArCRA means to me

Communication, Collaboration, and Inspiration.

***Communication with my peers in the registry, Collaboration working with each other to provide education, updates, and leadership.**

Inspiration while listening to our speakers, talking with my peers I get inspired to do better.

Anitta

"OHANA"

Means family

Family means no one gets left behind!

- Lilo and Stitch

ArCRA is FAMILY!



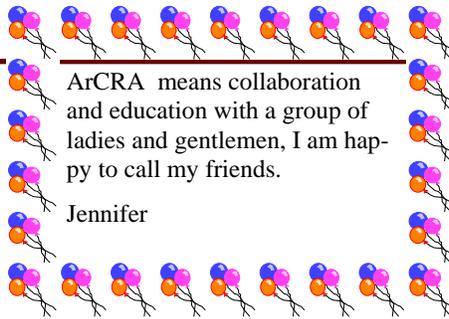
Thinking Back...Embracing for the Future

Needing a last minute story, I thought I would take a FB Sticker that made me laugh and make it pertain to our organization....really?! Anyone of you can do it.

It is kind of a long one so enjoy...

“THE ONE THING THAT YOU HAVE THAT NOBODY ELSE HAS IS YOU. YOUR VOICE, YOUR MIND, YOUR STORY, YOUR VISION. SO WRITE AND DRAW AND BUILD AND PLAY AND DANCE AND LIVE ONLY AS YOU CAN” (HPLYRIKZ.COM)

In 2007, I became part of the ACCR world, a new registrar without any experience or certification. Heck, I hadn't even started classes yet. There I was in a vast ocean rolling with the waves and



ArCRA means collaboration and education with a group of ladies and gentlemen, I am happy to call my friends.

Jennifer

only a single light burning. Even though some days the waters were rough, I had a safety belt in every registrar in our state. Everyone I called graciously helped or pointed me in the right direction. When I sadly failed my first CTR exam Cynthia cried with me, when I passed she cried and danced with me.

My first time to an annual conference, I heard voices of intelligent women (sorry

John, you weren't there yet!) raising their voices and encouraging us to use our own minds. As time moved on and so does our careers forever changing and shifting.

If one of us hurts, we waste no time in sharing our vision to help support and strengthen each other.

Today, we are now encouraged to build and draw to let others know what we are and why we are here.

As cancer registrars we are here to live as only we can....we are here as a FAMILY!

United in a cause, together we stand!

Written by Karyn Cramer, CTR

ArCRA 2015 Meeting
Sept 9-11, 2015
Baxter Regional Medical Ctr
Mountain Home,

Sharon's Story.....

Treasurer's Report

Main:

Opening Balance: \$6,928.13

Credits: 5,171.19

Expenses: 7,357.53

Total: \$4,741.79

Lucy Utterback Fund

Opening: \$6,464.57

Credits: 2,054.00

Expenses: 1,058.00

Total: \$7,460.57

Shirley Gann Fund

Opening Balance: \$7,585.80

Credits: 2,115.00

Total : \$9,700.80

CD Balance: \$3,374.08

Kindle profit 301, state basket brought in 705 to be split between the 4 states.

Sharon DeRamus, CTR



Are You Using Your Resources?

I have been finding a lot of ways to help me with my job lately, from the SEER Forum to just Google, or calling on a colleague (mentor). These are all great avenues, but lately I have been impressed with Facebook (most of the time). You see with my personal schedule, I don't usually have a lot of time to just visit Facebook. I usually skim the alerts and I seemed to have just noticed the



*Facebook...
Who knew?*

amount I have gotten from the NCRA page.

These posts range from simple requests for exam studying tips, to announcements of passing! Some are job postings or someone looking for a job, but what I find wonderful is the case scenario's, where someone is stuck and are now asking fellow registrars from around the

Written by Karyn Cramer

WORLD for help. I have not seen a negative comments, but helpful ones that usually post some sort of site to back up their reasoning. For this issue of the ArCRA newsletter I asked for statements of meaning. I am finding that FB has really brought registrars together across the world and it is because we are all striving for the same thing....a fighting chance for every cancer patient.

Let's celebrate ONE more birthday!

UAMS ranked #1

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences' online A.S. in Health Information Technology ranked #1 in the article titled "The 10 Best Online Associate in Health Information Technology Degree Programs" by TheBestSchools.org. Here is the link to that article:

<http://www.thebestschools.org/rankings/10-best-online-associate-health-information-technology-degree-programs/>

TheBestSchools.org selected UAMS's program based on several weighted factors, including academic excellence, course offerings, faculty strengths, and reputation, including reputation for online degree programs.

TheBestSchools.org is a leading resource for prospective students seeking a college or university degree. Many schools in the United States reference our rankings including Auburn University, Boston University, Texas A&M University, and many more.

Monica Roberts, TheBestSchools.org



Thanks to all of you who have taken our students over the years. It is you who have helped us to make our program great and make us the best! We are now teaching our bachelor's program in HIA, so we have two HIM programs, the HIT and the HIA, so we are moving onward and ahead. And we want to thank all of you and ArCRA for your partnership over the years. January will be my 20th year as a member of ArCRA and I love every minute of being in your organization!!! Thanks everyone

K.T.

Dr. Kathy C. Trawick, RHIA, FAHIMA

Announcement from Arkansas Central Cancer Registry (ACCR)

For this year only ACCR has extended their date to November 10, for facilities to submit any 2012 cases.



We are in the first planning stage for the meeting. Tentative Plans: **May 7-8, 2015**, to be held in Little Rock.

ArCRA to me is not just an organization that has been and is a big part of my educational experience; it is a place where, when the members get together, I can go and others know my name. I feel comfortable being there...in other words, it feels like family.

Theressia

A Look Back at MOKA Conference

MOKA...what I learned:

There were so many great topics that were discussed at the MOKA Regional conference. Here's a few of the things that I learned:

During a Mohs excision you may see that the patient has multiple dates, but this is only recorded as one surgery on the abstract. The reason for multiple visits is for insurance billing purposes and reimbursement.

Some great information was provided for standards 4.7 & 4.8. Make sure that your benchmark study is recognized, and send a message on CANswer forum for ideas on quality studies. The speak-

er prefers to use the DMAIC format; Define problem, Measure current process, Analyze the problem, Implement solutions, and control the solution.

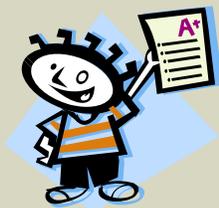
A presentation on NCRA 2014 conference was given. Some of the highlights included the transition to direct coding stage, RQRS, and standards 2012 v1.2.1 for 2014 and 2014 surveys. On the direct coding transition there was a reminder that beginning with 2016 data all abstracts will have direct coding TNM, NO collaborative staging. There is still no decision on what if any of the SSF will be kept. RQRS assesses current compliance rates and changes in compliance over time. Over half the programs spend less than 5 hrs p/wk working

on RQRS. It must be submitted at least every 3 months. 2009 standards are retired. Standard 5.2 is retired and is only for commendation. For 2015 and 2016 surveys need to register for RQRS and submit by the end of 2014. Standard 1.0 and PET accrual trial are accepted, but still need IRB approval. Standard 1.3 the absence or resignation of a physician is counted by the role on the committee not the physician's name. Put both Physicians' names on 1 line of SAR.



Melissa Riddle, CTR

SEND ME YOUR HALLOWEEN PICS!
kcramer@baxterregional.org



Grading Flow Chart:

http://www.cancerregistryeducation.org/Files/Org/f3f3d382a7a242549a9999654105a63b/site/2014_Grade_Flow_Chart.pdf

Check us out on the web

www.arcra-usa.org



Send me pictures through out the year...what do you do? Tell your story through a picture! Look forward to seeing them.

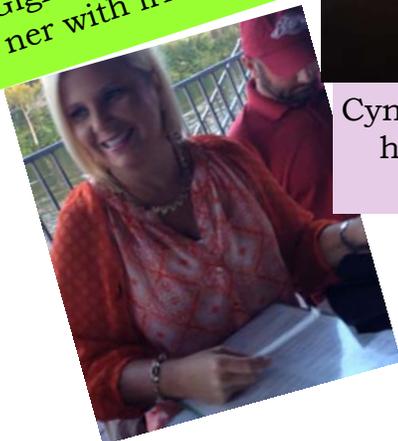
kramer@baxterregional.org

For me, ArCRA is the much needed glue connecting me to a wide range of resources to include: cancer surveillance related information, peer level support, education opportunities, scholarships, networking opportunities and career prospects. Having access to this organization and its members means I am never alone in my toils, regardless of my employer, and it offers a sense of security knowing this group of professionals will always 'have my back' and support me in my time of need.

Gigi

Pictures from you....Arkansas Cancer Registrars

Gigi enjoying dinner with friends.



Cynthia on stage learning how to do the Macho Man dance!



Amy and Cynthia



Jennifer having great down time