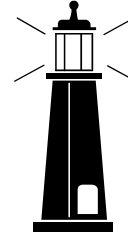


The Sentinel



The Newsletter for the Association of North Carolina Cancer Registrars

Spring 2014

Message from the President:

Ann Murphy, CTR

Hi everyone,

I hope everyone is enjoying this sunny weather. Raise your hand if you were tired of all the snow. ☺ I also hope you all had a Happy Easter and a great National Cancer Registrar's Week. If you would like to share with the membership how you celebrated, please contact Inez Inman to place it in the Sentinel. She is always looking for articles for the Sentinel. She has been placing Hospital Profiles in it and what a great way to get to know other fellow members.

The NCRA educational conference is only a month away. I am really looking forward to the opportunity to attend on behalf of ANCCR. I think we will be well represented with a number of our ANCCR membership. If you haven't already registered, now is the time to do so.

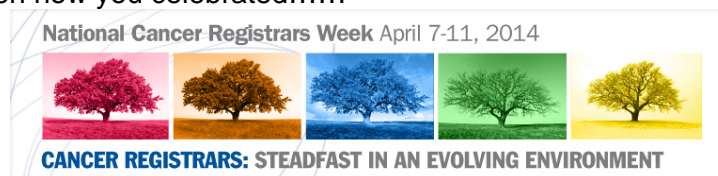
CarolinaEast Medical Center is still busy planning the Fall ANCCR meeting. We will be tying up all loose ends between June and July. I hope you all will enjoy the program in New Bern, NC. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Spring is here...enjoy it!

Take Care,

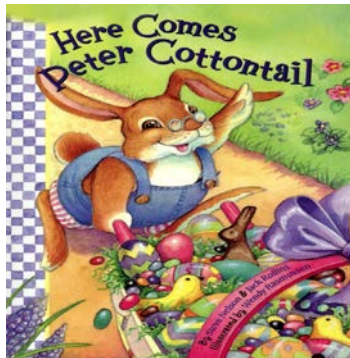
Ann Murphy, CTR
President, ANCCR

Share your stories on how you celebrated.....



ANCCR's Executive Board 2013-2014

<p>President: Ann Murphy, CMA, CTR amurphy@carolinaeasthealth.com</p> <p>Immediate Past President: Tara Lewis, CTR Tara.lewis@msj.org</p> <p>Vice President: Kisha Raynor, CTR kisha.raynor@carolinashealthcare.org</p> <p>Secretary: Carol Burke, CTR Carol.burke@pardeehospital.org</p> <p>Treasurer: Leta Vess, CTR lvess@firsthealth.org</p> <p>Ways & Means: Deirdra Greene dgreene@hprhs.com</p> <p>Grants & Vendors: Paige Tedder, CTR Paige.tedder@carolinashealthcare.org Kathleen Foote, CTR Kathleen.foote@rexhealth.com</p> <p>Program Coordinator: Deborah Carrethers, CTR dgcarrethers@novanthealth.org</p> <p>Bylaws: Adaline Brown, RHIT, CCS, CTR abrown@certicode.com</p>	<p>Membership: Vickie Gill, RHIA, CTR vagill@novanthealth.org</p> <p>Education: Jenean Burris, RHIT, CTR jburris@wakehealth.edu</p> <p>Educational Scholarship: Inez Inman, BS, RHIT, CTR iinman@wakehealth.edu</p> <p>Historian: Joanne Essick, CTR essijoan@armc.com</p> <p>Nominating: Blanche Sellars, CTR annie.sellars@rexhealth.com</p> <p>Publications: Inez Inman, BS, RHIT, CTR iinman@wakehealth.edu</p> <p>Web Site Coordinator & A4C Liaison: Cathy Rimmer, BA, MDiv, CTR crrimmer@novanthealth.org</p> <p>NCRA Liaison: Melanie Rogan, CTR melanie@ers-can.com</p> <p>Central Cancer Registry Liaison: Melissa Pearson, CTR Melissa.pearson@dhhs.nc.gov</p>
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Hope that you had a
Happy Easter!!

ANCCR TREASURER REPORT

1/1/2014 through 3/31/2014

Leta Vess, CTR

ANCCR Treasurer

INCOME

Bank Interest	0.07
Dividend Earned	83.67
Interest Income	0.04
Membership Dues	175.00
Vender Fees	500.00
TOTAL INCOME	758.78

EXPENSES

Bank Charge	0.00
NCRA Conference Fee	2,018.00
NCRA Education Foundation	0.00
Secu Foundation	3.00
Fall Meeting Costs:	
Hotel Occupancy and Meals	0.00
Mileage	0.00
Website	1,099.40
Fed Tax	1.63
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,122.03

NET WORTH-as of 4/15/2014

ASSETS

Cash and Bank Accounts:	
ANCCR Checking	12,960.11
Money Market	30,642.20
Shares Account	60.03
TOTAL ASSETS	43,662.34

Bylaws Report

Adaline Brown, RHIT, CCS, CTR

The purpose of bylaws is to allow the ANCCR executive board and members of our organization to understand the rules, policies, and procedures. Bylaws provide consistency to help ANCCR function in accordance with its purpose and function. The ANCCR board felt that the following proposed bylaws were necessary in order to keep up with the times.

ANCCR Current Bylaws:

Section 4. Election.

1. Elections shall be by ballot at the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for the preparation of the ballots.
2. Candidate information will be included in the ANCCR newsletter to be distributed thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.
3. Election shall be by a plurality of the votes cast by the active and associate members. In case of a tie, the election shall be decided by lot.
4. Absentee ballots may be requested from the Nominating Committee Chair by voting members in good standing at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting and must be returned at least ten (10) days before the annual meeting to the Nominating Committee Chair or the ballot will not be counted.
5. The Nominating Committee Chair and two (2) members of the Nominating Committee shall count ballots.
6. Elected officers shall assume office following their installation.

PROPOSED CHANGE to reflect change in voting procedure.

1. Elections shall be by ballot. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for the preparation of the ballots and distribution of ballots at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.
2. Election shall be by a plurality of the votes cast by the active and associate members. In case of a tie, the election shall be decided by lot.
3. The Nominating Committee Chair and two (2) members of the Nominating Committee shall count ballots.
4. Elected officers shall assume office following their installation.

Adopting the proposed changes will be voted on at 2014 Annual Meeting on September 24 in New Bern.

WEB SITE AND A4C REPORT

Cathy Rimmer, BA, MDiv, CTR

Web Site:

The Fall meeting brochure has been uploaded to the web site.

We have had several inquiries from people looking for a place to do their 160 hour clinical rotation. These are folks that did not go through the program at Davidson County Community College. A suggestion might be to solicit from members those who are available for clinical rotations and have a place on our website that will list them and their contact information.

A4C:

The next meeting is May 2nd in Raleigh. The final version of the Cancer Plan will be presented at that time.

EDUCATION REPORT

Jenean Montgomery Burris, RHIT, CTR

Davidson County Community College is exploring the option of a Cancer Information Management Certificate program. This would be amazing for those potential employees that have an associate degree or higher that would like to acquire a position in the Cancer Registry. This would meet the NCRA Education Path 2a to sit for the CTR exam.

There are two students graduating from DCCC's CIM program in May.

ICD-10 REMINDER for those CTRs that also hold RHIT/RHIA credentials UPDATED DATE!!

AHIMA Certified Professionals can begin earning ICD-10-CM/PCS specific CEUs during the period of January 1, 2011 thru **December 31, 2015**. This is the new deadline, due to delay in implementing ICD-10.

RHIT – 6 CEUs required

RHIA – 6 CEUs required

2014 CTR Exam Dates:

There are now three times during the calendar year that the CTR exam is being given. The testing periods have been extended from two weeks to three. The new summer dates are fantastic for the May graduates!

2014 CTR Exam Dates:

- March 8 – March 29
Application deadline: Jan 31
- June 21 – July 12
Application deadline: May 2
Deadline extended to May 21!
- October 18 – November 8
Application deadline: Sept 19

ICD-O-3 Terminology Approved for Cases Diagnosed January 1, 2014 and After

The NAACCR website has posted a document that describes the changes to the ICD-O-3. The document is titled, "GUIDELINES FOR ICD-O-3 UPDATE IMPLEMENTATION Effective January 1, 2014" and should be downloaded and reviewed by all cancer registrars and data reporters. The NC Central Cancer Registry will be adopting all of these changes as well. Below are important points from the document. The link to the document is:

<http://www.naacr.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=u7d3sB71t5w%3d&tabid=126&mid=466>

How sweeping are the changes?

The NAACCR workgroup approved 36 new *terms* to be added to the existing codes in the ICD-O-3 for use in the United States and Canada. These terms use *existing* codes. There are no new codes added for 2014. The changes are effective beginning with cases diagnosed on or after January 1, 2014. Of these new terms:

- 21 are new reportable malignant (/3) terms
- 1 is a new reportable borderline (/1) tumor of the central nervous system
- 14 are new benign (/0) or uncertain malignancy (/1) conditions which are NOT REPORTABLE at this time.

Table 1 in the Implementation Guideline document referenced above provides a complete list the terms approved for use with 2014 diagnoses and forward.

Important! Cancer registry reportability rules based on behavior code still apply. With the exception of benign and borderline intracranial and central nervous system tumors, the addition of a new term with a behavior code of /0 or /1 does not imply that it is now reportable. Continue to follow the reportability rules for the CoC and the central cancer registry.

Why is the list of approved terms so limited compared to the WHO ICD-O-3 Update List?

The review of other terms that were included in the WHO ICD-O-3 Updates List has not been completed. The remaining terms may or may not be implemented for cancer registries in the United States because of the terminology used and potential reportability issues. Problematic terms include words such as "high grade neoplasia" or "high grade dysplasia" or "severe dysplasia" in digestive system sites and breast. These dysplasia terms are not included in most states' reporting legislation. The implications of accepting these terms as reportable are being carefully studied as they may affect not only reporting legislation, but also workload in case ascertainment, abstracting, follow-up and incidence reporting.

Only the terms in Table 1 in the "GUIDELINES FOR ICD-O-3 UPDATE IMPLEMENTATION Effective January 1, 2014" have been approved in the United States and Canada for 2014 and forward. The workgroup wanted to proceed deliberately and study the implications of adding new codes and terms. The first terms approved (for 2014) are only additions of synonymous terms to existing codes so there should be no problems with invalid codes or edit conflicts.

What are the changes for 2015?

For 2015, 16 new *codes and terms* were proposed for addition to ICD-O-3. Of these, 7 are reportable malignant (/3) tumors and 4 are reportable borderline (/1) tumors of the central nervous system). Most of these new codes and terms are rare or very site-specific.

ICD-O-3 Terminology, continued

Table 2 in the Implementation Guideline document referenced above provides a complete list of the terms approved for use with 2015 diagnoses and forward.

Important note for 2015 cases: The new *codes* were not incorporated into CS and cannot be used at this time because no Stage Group will be derived. Until the new *codes* can be used, use Table 2 to determine the CURRENT code that is to be used for the associated new term.

Will a new version of the ICD-O-3 manual be available?

Yes, BUT DON'T USE IT! WHO has announced a "first revision" of the ICD-O-3. This new printing includes ALL of the terms added in the 2011 WHO ICD-O-3 Update List. Using the "ICD-O-3 First Revision" may cause confusion for abstractors in the U.S. because this printing will include the terms added internationally but not yet implemented in the U.S. and Canada.

It is recommended that you continue using the original publication of the ICD-O-3 book © 2000. Until all update terms are approved for use in the U.S., print Tables 1 and 2 and use when abstracting. You may also want to write the changes directly in your ICD-O-3 book.

For more information on the background and rationale for the changes, review the article in the Fall 2013 issue of NCRA's Journal of Registry Management at:

<http://www.ncra-usa.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3307>.

Note: Due to the new codes not being incorporated into CS, the new codes listed in the Journal article cannot be used. Use Table 1 and 2 provided in the Implementation Guideline on the NAACCR website.

Melissa Pearson, CTR
NC Central Cancer Registry

New Law Includes ICD-10 Delay

On April 1, 2014, President Obama signed into law "Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014," H.R. 4302, which contains a year-long temporary "patch" to the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula and averts a 24% reduction in Medicare physician payments that was scheduled to go into effect on the same day. The law also delays ICD-10 for a year or more.

The law includes a provision that delays the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10 code sets until at least October 1, 2015. This is the second time that ICD-10 implementation has been delayed. In August 2012, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) delayed by one year the original compliance date of October 1, 2013.

Until the industry knows a final ICD-10-CM/PCS implementation date, AHIMA recommends that organizations continue with preparations under the assumption that next year is the "go live" year. That means preparing by strengthening clinical documentation improvement programs; working with vendors on transition readiness; training coders, clinicians, and other stakeholders; and proceeding with dual coding.

From the 4/16/14 ACCC Newsletter:

[Read our recent interview with *Oncology Issues* "Compliance" columnist Cindy Parman, CPC, CPC-H, RCC.](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Vickie Gill, RHIA, CTR

There are 126 ANCCR members as of April 2014!

NCRA LIAISON REPORT

Melanie Rogan, CTR

NCRA election results:

President-Elect/Secretary

Leah Kiesow, MBA, CTR

Treasurer Junior

Kathleen M. Hess, RHIT, CTR

Professional Development Board Director

Sharmen A. Dye, CTR

Public Relations Board Director

Kyle L. Ziegler, CTR

Nominating Committee East Region

Karen Coyne, MSc, RN, CTR

Inez Evans Inman, BS, RHIT, CTR

Nominating Midwest Region

Christine S. Lapina, RHIA, CTR

Beverly A. Shackelford, CTR

Nominating West Region

Daniel J. Curran, MS, CTR

Loretta E. Travers, RHIT, CTR

Council on Certification Representatives:

Cynthia Boudreaux, LPN, CTR

April L. Feathers, CTR

Joanne Harris, CTR

Kimberly L. Watson, CTR

- NCRA election results were posted on their website. Congratulations Inez! Leah Kiesow used to be at Mission Hospitals, however she moved out of NC. If not, that would make yet another NCRA president from NC!
- The conference dates are sneaking up on us. The agenda looks great with a lot of really good topics!!
- The application deadline for the June/July CTR exam has been extended to 5/21.
- The NCRA website has been redesigned and is a lot more user friendly!

Ways \$ Means
Deirdra Greene

What's In The "BOX" Auction

Curiosity killed the cat and it will be curiosity that will get YOU at our state meeting this year. The ANCCR Board is asking each hospital to participate in this year's fundraiser, by bringing a wrapped gift with a value of at least \$10.00 (or more that's up to you) to our silent auction. This is how it will work: You will place your wrapped gift on a table that will be set up by our Ways and Means committee. As each box is brought in, it will be labeled with a number along with an index card with the same number. You will be allowed to examine the boxes picking them up shaking them etc... but absolutely no unwrapping or peaking. You write down your bid on the index card and try to outbid each other and whoever has the highest bid on Thursday at the last break WINS..... it will be fun just to see if your box holds what you thought it might. Good Luck! If you have questions contact Deirdra Greene at dgreene@hprhs.com.

Nominating Committee Report
Blanche Sellars, CTR

CANDIDATES WANTED!

The nominating committee is actively requesting and seeking nominations for the upcoming election to be held at our annual meeting in September. Please email me with any nominations for the offices of **President**, **Vice-President**, **Secretary** and **Treasurer**. All new officers will be selected and voted for in the upcoming year. Please submit names of candidates that are knowledgeable with our organization and who will be able to step in and carry on as we go forward. The membership has until June 1st to submit their nominations to the nominating committee. It is that time of year for current ANCCR members to step up and get involved with the ANCCR board. ANCCR needs YOU!

****It takes everyone to do their part to make our Association a success****

2015 NAACCR Annual Conference

The NC CCR will be hosting the 2015 NAACCR Annual Conference in Charlotte, NC. The conference is scheduled for the week of June 13, 2015. This would be an excellent opportunity to attend a national meeting close to home – even if only for one day. While this meeting is geared towards central registries, some of the presentations given at NCRA are also given at NAACCR – especially those related to data changes. Plus, it is an excellent opportunity for professional growth to have a glimpse of the issues related to cancer surveillance at the next level. Details of the agenda will not be available until Spring 2015.



Lou Woods Award for 2014

Joanne Essick, CTR, ANCCR Historian

Nominations are being accepted for the Lou Woods Award established and named in honor of the founder of TRANC. Winners demonstrate dedication, educational leadership, extraordinary enthusiasm, tireless commitment, professional achievement or outstanding and attentive faithful service that benefits the Association of North Carolina Cancer Registrars (ANCCR) and the tumor registry profession.

The nomination form is at the following link: <http://ncregistrars.com/content/luna-m-woods-award>

Requirements for Nomination:

- Nominator must be an ANCCR member in good standing (defined as being a member for at least one calendar year.)
- Nominee need not be a member of ANCCR.
- Nomination form should give as many details as possible why the nominee deserves this award.
- Nomination should be sent to the ANCCR Historian at least two (2) months before the annual meeting. Deadline: July 24, 2014.

Please think about making a nomination. The award will be presented at the ANCCR annual meeting in September.

Nominations should be emailed to Joanne Essick, jessick@armc.com.

HOSPITAL PROFILE: Carol Burke, CTR

Pardee Hospital is a 220 bed hospital located in Hendersonville, NC. The cancer registry was started in 1993 and we recently changed the reference year to 2000 at the request of our COC surveyor. We are accredited as a Comprehensive Community Cancer Center and have an analytical caseload of 525 to 500 cases per year. I am the only person in the registry at this time, but hope to have a followup clerk in the near future. I was hired by the hospital in 1998 and started in the registry in 1995. I am the mother of two daughters and have three wonderful grandchildren, and am engaged to be married in October 2014.

My other duties include coordination of the COC and NAPBC surveys, coordinating the Psychosocial Distress Task Force and Survivorship Task Force, coordination of all physician CME and serving as a firestarter for the hospitals Performance Standards Team.

NCRA 2014 Annual Educational Conference



NCRA's 40th Annual Educational Conference (NCRA 2014) will be held May 15-18, 2014, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville. Several sessions will focus on the transition from Collaborative Stage to TNM Coding and Summary Stage that is set to take place January 2016. The results and next steps of the AJCC-NCRA Educational Needs Assessment will also be presented. Expect up to 20 CEs.

Information on registration, hotel accommodations, pre-conference workshops, and scholarships can be found at www.ncra-usa.org/conference.



News – Facts – Articles – Updates

Send information to: *The Sentinel* Editor
Inez Inman, Cancer Registry, WF Baptist Medical Center
iinman@wakehealth.edu 336-713-6828
Deadline for the next issue of *The Sentinel* is July 15, 2014.



Rare Blood Moon on the Rise

The moon glowed red on April 15, 2014 and will happen three more times in the next 18 months. It's all part of a lunar eclipse "tetrad": a series of four consecutive total lunar eclipses that happen at about six-month intervals. The next one is due October 8, 2014, followed by blood moons April 4, 2015, and September 28, 2015, according to NASA. There will be a total lunar eclipse on those dates, when the moon passes into the Earth's shadow, and the moon will begin to appear bright orange or red because of the way sunlight bends through the Earth's atmosphere. The sunset hue lasts up to an hour.

ANCCR EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

2014 Topic:

“How Has the Cancer Registry Profession Evolved and What Does the Future Hold”

ANCCR has designated funding for an educational scholarship for an ANCCR member to attend the ANCCR annual educational meeting in September 2014 in New Bern.

The purpose of the scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a member who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend ANCCR’s annual meeting. The scholarship covers the full conference registration fee, mileage and hotel for three nights at the conference hotel. ANCCR members wishing to apply for the scholarship must complete an application and submit at least a 500 word essay on the 2014 topic.

Please send the essay with your application (see below) to:

Inez Inman, Cancer Registry

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, Medical Center Blvd., Winston-Salem, NC 27157.

Deadline is Friday, August 1, 2014. The winning essay may be reprinted in The Sentinel following the ANCCR annual educational meeting.

APPLICATION

Your name: _____

Your title/department: _____

Facility’s name: _____

Facility’s address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

STATEMENT:

I sign this statement in good faith that I would not be able to attend the ANCCR annual educational meeting in New Bern without this funding.

Signature: _____

Your manager, supervisor, director’s printed name: _____

Manager, supervisor, director’s signature: _____