

Keystoner

February 2010

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President's Message

Submitted by Fran Guiles, RHIA, CTR
PHIMA President

"Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart". *Victor Hugo (1802 – 1885)*. Happy New Year Everyone!! I hope your Holiday Season was filled with joy and merriment.

Winter is settling in with a nice brisk arctic blast. I'm growing tired of my coat, scarf and boots very quickly, how about you? Be that as it may, the business of PHIMA pushes on through snow, **cold**, sleet, **cold**, arctic winds and more **cold**. "If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome". *Anne Bradstreet (1612 - 1672)*.

2010 is gearing up to be quite the year with many critical issues facing our organizations such as RAC's, potential changes to copy fee allowances on the state legislative front, EMR implementations, and healthcare reform. On December 30, 2009, CMS and ONC issued proposed regulations on the definition of **Meaningful Use** and the initial set of standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria for EHR technology. Dr. David Blumenthal, National Coordinator for Health IT said "we believe the EHR incentive program...will accelerate and

Committee Spotlight - Legislative/eHealth Committee

Co-Chairpersons: Stephen Young
and Andrea Thomas-Lloyd

This year, Stephen Young with the support of PHIMA, would like to recognize Andrea Thomas-Lloyd. Andi came into the position and immediately demonstrated her knowledge in the field and commitment to the committee. The committee had a crucial year as Pa eHI transformed and federal regulations took the spotlight. Andi kept in stride the whole way and helped assure the PHIMA community was as aware crucial matters. Andi has helped the Legislative/eHealth Committee members serve their community all year long. As all of us have many obligations and commitments, this committee is only a small portion of Andi's influence and we are lucky to have her.

PHIMA RHIA/RHIT Exam Reimbursement Recipients

Congratulations and welcome the following HIM professionals have recently graduated, successfully passed their RHIA or RHIT certification exam and were reimbursed their exam expense.

Michelle Creveling, RHIT
Maurice Frazier, RHIT
Kyle Guth, RHIA
Lauren Houseal, RHIT
Nadirah Jefferies, RHIT
Donna Lougher, RHIT
Christine Martin, RHIA
Christina McCleer, RHIA
Dawn Miklich, RHIT
Heather Mills, RHIT
Michelle Moyer, RHIT
Kelly Pasquinelli, RHIT
Martin Schryver, RHIA

facilitate health IT adoption by more individual providers and organizations throughout the health care system". There is nothing mundane for us on the horizon.

With the harsh weather comes the cold reality that the association year is half over. The "Sweet New Adventures Ride" seems to be going so fast. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first six months as your president, but am now feeling the anxiety of time running short.

Our main focus right now is the PHIMA Annual Meeting, which will be held on May 10-12, 2010 in Hershey, PA – (Chocolate town)!!!! Our **Education and Program Committee**, led by our Executive Director Lorri Luciano and Committee Chair Sharon Widenhofer are planning a wonderful and exciting state meeting. Our THEME is "SWEET NEW ADVENTURES." Cost for the annual meeting will be lowered to \$175 for all three days. Please read the Education and Program Committee article for more details. All of the 2010 PHIMA Annual Meeting details, plus online registration, can be found on the [PHIMA website](#). Now is the time to comfortably plan ahead, block your calendars, and ask for the time off at work. You don't want to miss out on this exciting opportunity to earn CE credits, enjoy the vendor auction, president reception, and network with your peers, and a few other "new adventures". I look forward to seeing you there.

Your Board is also busy approving the next ballot, reviewing nominations for Distinguished Member and recommending students for scholarships.

Our Nominating committee did a great job preparing an awesome ballot. The folks who are on the ballot have been dedicated members of PHIMA and would be a great addition to the Board. Let's all do our part as an association and VOTE for the candidates of your choice.

I hope 2010 finds you well. Stay Warm!!!

Fran

Board Meeting Update

November 2009

The second quarter board meeting was held on 11/20/09 in Harrisburg, PA. President Fran Guiles acknowledged

Joshue Share, RHIA
Marissa Stains (Sokol), RHIT
Kathy Summers, RHIT
Erh Hsuan Wang, RHIA
Elizabeth West, RHIT
Carol Wise, RHIT

If you, or know of someone, that qualifies for exam reimbursement, please visit the [PHIMA webpage](#) for more details!

Upcoming Meetings

LVHIMA Educational Session

February 20, 2010

CPHIMA Educational Session

March 19, 2010

Clinical Documentation

Improvement

Program Symposium

March 25, 2010

PHIMA Annual Meeting

May 10-12, 2010

Upcoming Audio Conferences

Making Dollars and "Sense" of Your Revenue Cycle

February 25, 2010

Sponsors



that we are half way through the year and thanked everyone for their commitment to PHIMA.

Much of the meeting was devoted to the review and approval of the 2010 annual conference. The agenda is action packed with several tracks of education, pre workshops, extended vendor time and many networking opportunities.

In the interim, Education opportunities will be held on January 21 and January 22. PHR training will be held on January 21 at the Wyndham in Harrisburg. PHIMA is looking to have 20 people trained who will have to provide three sessions per year. Each local association will be asked for two volunteers. Fran and Lorri have already been trained. An EHR Workshop will be held on January 22. Fran announced that Christine Staropoli has agreed to chair the Community Education/PHR Committee.

Concern was raised and discussed regarding the challenges that educators have in finding acute care sites who will accept students. PHIMA will continue to promote this in Suggest that we email members as well as advertise on website and in e-Alert the need and the credits available from CAHIM.

The 2010-2011 ballot was reviewed and approved. Also discussed was the need to update qualifications for positions and what constitutes a term in order to qualify for ballot. Lorri Luciano indicated that we need to review all of these as well as committee charters on a routine basis to accommodate changes.

The meeting was adjourned mid afternoon. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2010.

Legislative/eHealth Committee Update

Co-Chairpersons: Stephen Young and Andrea Thomas-Lloyd

The legislative/e-health committee has posted the new 2010 Release of Information charges to the CoP. They are also available on the PA code.

With the new federal grants and acts in place, Meaningful Use has become an imperative term. CMS and ONC issued proposed regulations for Meaningful Use. These

regulations will govern the electronic medical record incentive program. Participants will have to prove they are meaningful users of the health technology in order to receive the incentive. The goal is to accelerate and facilitate the incentive program. Additional information on Meaningful Use can be found at [this website](#).

[Read more.](#)

Clinical Documentation Improvement Committee Update

The ending of 2009 gives us an opportunity to reflect upon some of the changes that occurred last year within our association and the newly developed PHIMA Clinical Documentation Improvement Program track. Since CDIP alignment with PHIMA in the fall of 2009 we have been able to provide two Clinical Documentation Improvement symposiums. One was held on August 6th at Abington Memorial Hospital and our 2nd symposium was held on November 2nd at The Reading Hospital and Medical Center. Both symposiums were well attended. The speakers were knowledgeable and presented material highly relevant to Clinical Documentation Improvement programs. Topics ranged from the following: The Role of the Physician Champion, Performance Outcomes and the CDI Program, Final Rule for ICD9CM October 2010 Updates, Identifying Infections in the Medical Record: POA vs. HAC, Identification of Nutritional Issues in the Medical Record, Pneumonia/COPD documentation and Core Measures, Dementia and Delirium diagnoses and specificity for coding and documentation, Renal Disease principal diagnosis/documentation/coding and BMI documentation for CC capture of Obesity and Malnutrition codes.

[Read more.](#)

Spotlight on the Treasurer: Laura Rizzo

Having a father who was a physician (retired in 1999), I knew that when I “grew up” that I wanted to pursue a healthcare career. As many new college students, I changed my major during my freshman year. I had initially planned to be a physical therapist, but the results of a career test at the University of Pittsburgh showed that my strengths were in analytical and organizational skills. This test helped me to select Health Information

Management (HIM) as a career—healthcare without direct patient care.

I have worked at Lancaster General Hospital since my college graduation in 1982. I can honestly say that I have never regretted my career or employer choice. There have been many changes over the past 28 years, both in the profession and in my work place. This has certainly made for a very interesting work life!

[Read more.](#)

CPHIMA Regional Report

Submitted by Jennifer Zimmerman, RHIA
Public Relations Chairperson

CPHIMA held its annual holiday education session at the beautiful Hotel Hershey on Friday, December 18, 2009. We kicked the morning off with Frank Eichorn, DM, PMP, CCP of Eichorn Consulting. He presented Project Management Fundamentals; Team and Stakeholder Management and Business and IT Relationships. Frank did a great job of engaging the group in his project management presentation. Paula Lawlor, RHIA, Chief Operation Officer, HIM, Coding and Audit Services, Pyramid Healthcare Solutions, Inc. followed Frank and spoke on Strength Finders, "Understanding What You Do Best and How to Lead". Paula grabbed our attention and kept it with her upbeat presentation and humor. Following the presentations we gathered in the Circular Dining Room for a delicious lunch (which included the fantastic dessert table) and the session concluded with our CPHIMA business meeting.

Upcoming Events:

- Education session on Friday March 19, 2010
- Education session on Friday June 4, 2010

Additional information about CPHIMA, our newsletter and registration information for upcoming educational sessions and Coding Roundtable information can be found on our [website!](#)

LVHIMA Regional Report

Greetings from LVHIMA!

L VHIMA Holiday Dinner/Meeting took place on December 15th at the Revivals Restaurant in Perkasi. The key note speaker was Rita Miller with an entertaining educational discussion about humor in the workplace. The benefits of Professional Practice Experience were discussed and the attendees were encouraged to accept students at their places of employment.

L VHIMA website has been upgraded to include online meeting registration which was utilized successfully for the organization's most recent meeting.

Submitted by Yeva Madden, RHIA
President, L VHIMA

SePHIMA Regional Report

Submitted by Denise Duniak, MS, RHIA
Public Relations Chair, SePHIMA

Greetings from SePHIMA. Happy New Year. Hope you and yours had a happy holiday season? As a reminder,

The Executive Board for the 2009-2010 includes:

President: Cathy Flite, M.Ed, RHIA
President-Elect: Wannetta Edwards, MS, RHIA
Past President: Fran Guiles, RHIA, CTR
Secretary: Renee Silverman, RHIT, CCS
Treasurer: Dasantila Sherifi, MBA, RHIA

Committee Chairpersons:

Bylaws: Joyce Garozzo, MS, RHIA, CCS
Education/Arrangements: Kim Felix, RHIA, CCS
Finance: Wannetta Edwards, MS, RHIA
Membership: Geralynn Bryers, RHIA, CTR
Nominating: Fran Guiles, RHIA, CTR
Public Relations: Denise Duniak, MS, RHIA
Advocacy: Dina Nedorost, RHIT, CCS

If you are a SePHIMA member, interested in participating in or learning more about any of the committees, please contact Denise Duniak at 610-219-9530 or Denise.Duniak@siemens.com. If you have any ideas for education topics for our regular meetings, please contact Kim Felix kfelix@turn2meca.com

Our holiday education was held on December 3, at Knowlton Mansion, which was decorated very nicely for

the holiday season. The agenda had something to peek everyone's interest. Approximately 80 members were in attendance to enjoy the education, luncheon and vendor time. Scot Nemchik from mainline Health presented Managing Interventional Radiology. Kelly McLendon, President of Health Information Xperts simplified ARRA and Meaningful use for us and Jennifer Ritter of University of Pennsylvania Health System reviewed Best Practices for RAC Preparation. A business meeting was held just before lunch with all committee chairs providing updates. Cathy Flite, President, gave a review of various items from our local as well as an update from PHIMA. PHIMA is looking for volunteers from each local to serve as PHR trainers. Fran Guiles our nominating chair is seeking candidates for SePHIMA ballot for 2010-2011 and Dina Nedorost, our advocacy chair, is seeking participants in Hill Day. We had several members show interest in all three volunteer opportunities. We would like to thank RRS Services, IOD, Medquist, MECA, HSI, and Precyse for spending the day with us.

SePHIMA has joined Facebook. For those of you who are Facebook junkies, feel free to follow up on Facebook. If you are NOT that technical, stay tuned to the next edition of the Keystoner for more exciting news from SEPHIMA or visit our [website](#).

WPHIMA Regional Report

Submitted by Christel Chuderewicz, RHIT/CCS
Publication Chair, WPHIMA

Happy New Year to all of our colleagues across the state.
It is hard to believe it is already 2010!

Education Update:

The Education Committee held an education session on CPT updates in December at St Clair Hospital. We had a great turnout and the committee is busy working on additional sessions for the Spring, including the Annual Meeting, which will be held in June.

Please check the [WPHIMA website](#) for more complete information on the upcoming sessions.

Membership Drive:

We are currently in the process of sending out our 2010

Membership Drive letters and Renewal Applications. If desired, you can go to the WPHIMA website to complete your renewal on line.



Legislative/eHealth Committee Update

Co-Chairpersons: Stephen Young and Andrea Thomas-Lloyd

The legislative/e-health committee has posted the new 2010 Release of Information charges to the CoP. They are also available on the PA code.

With the new federal grants and acts in place, *Meaningful Use* has become an imperative term. CMS and ONC issued proposed regulations for *Meaningful Use*. These regulations will govern the electronic medical record incentive program. Participants will have to prove they are meaningful users of the health technology in order to receive the incentive. The goal is to accelerate and facilitate the incentive program. Additional information on *Meaningful Use* can be found at this [website](#).

At the last Pa eHI meeting, PHIX [Pennsylvania Health Information Exchange] made a presentation on their scope of interoperability in Pennsylvania. PHIX release a draft plan for comments to be submitted. The legislative/e-health committee reviewed the PHIX plan and submitted comments. The document that was reviewed is available on the CoP. The proposed plan has sparked many comments and questions from reviewers on an interdisciplinary level. These comments imply a great deal of concern in the plan. A second draft with responses to comments will be released.

Other Pa eHI news includes:

A newly redesigned website is now available at: <http://www.paehi.org/>.

PA eHI Strategic and Operational Plan – the Plans were approved during the 11/18/09 Board meeting and will be available on the website soon.

PA Medical Society – Denise Zimmerman, Executive VP PMS, updated the attendees on PMS' continued role and support of PA eHI.

- They continue to advocate improvements in broadband connectivity on behalf of their members.
- She also reported that they are assisting Quality Insights of PA in their application to serve as a Regional Extension Center.
- PIMSCO (a subsidiary) has already assisted over 300 physician practices in selecting and installing an EHR.

HIT Workforce Development & Training – JoAnn Klinedisnt, HIMSS VP of Education and Leigh Twiford, VP of TechQuest made a presentation. They communicated the role of HIMSS as being the emphasis on Health IT and AHIMA as the role of Health Information Management. Ms. Klinedisnt recommends the HIMSS Academy Foundation Programs for education and encouraged certification opportunities. HIMSS has applied for a \$4.1 million grant from the Department of Labor for workforce development. TechQuest's role will be to assist HIMSS regionally in offering training and education. It's likely they will use the academy programs as a foundation for their education and training.

NaviNet – Dave Edelstein, VP Account Management, presented the role NaviNet is offering in their branded portal through which HIEs, providers, insurers, and others could exchange health information.

Other legislative updates:

State Budget - House Bill 1416 (General Appropriations Act 10 of 2009) includes spending amounts for fiscal year 2009-2010. All of the hospital supplemental payments received restorations. While the restorations were improved over various legislative budget proposals, they are still at an amount lower than was spent in fiscal year 2008-2009.

Emergency Medical Services - Senate Bill 240 (Act 37 of 2009), which updates the Emergency Medical Services System Act, requires the Department of Health to plan,

guide, and coordinate programs to promote effective and efficient operation of statewide and regional EMS systems. HAP supported the bill because it better reflects current practices.

Health Insurance for the Unemployed - [House Bill 1089](#) (Act 2 of 2009) extends COBRA health benefits to companies with between two and 19 employees. HAP supported the bill.

Health Insurance for Dependent Adults - [Senate Bill 189](#) (Act 4 of 2009) allows some dependent adults to receive health insurance benefits through their parents' plans until they are age 30. HAP supported the bill.

Preventable Serious Adverse Events - [House Bill 84](#) (Act 1 of 2009) prohibits a health care provider from seeking payment for a preventable serious adverse event. HAP supported the bill.

PHC4 - [Senate Bill 89](#) (Act 3 of 2009) reauthorizes the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) through June 30, 2014. Key provisions of the law include the removal of the single-vendor requirement for reporting of quality data as well as measures providing for greater oversight and accountability of PHC4's actions. HAP supported the bill.

Pending legislation updates:

Health Information Technology - Representative Rick Taylor (D-Montgomery) introduced [House Bill 2106](#), the Health Information Technology Act. The bill establishes the Pennsylvania Health Information Exchange to promote the expansion of and use of health information technology. HAP supports the bill.

Health Information Technology Act - The Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee approved [Senate Bill 700](#), sponsored by Senator Rob Wonderling (R-Montgomery), which provides a framework for use of the federal stimulus funds directed at health information technology. It also requires the Department of Public Welfare to make payments to health care providers for the purchase or enhancement of health information technology. HAP supports the bill.

Electronic Prescriptions - The House Health and Human Services Committee approved [House Bill 825](#), sponsored by Representative Matt Baker (R-Tioga). The bill requires adoption of electronic prescriptions in health care facilities and provides incentive payments for adoption of health information technology. While HAP has some concerns with the bill, HAP supports the overall intent of the legislation.

Clinical Documentation Improvement Committee Update

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Looking forward in 2010 will find your CDIP committee working toward planning future symposiums before the completion of the fiscal year. An outcome from one of our PHIMA executive meetings was the suggestion to make the CDIP symposiums more geographically available throughout the state. Based on the committee's discussion and following approval we will be providing our next CDIP symposium in western PA at St. Clair Hospital in Pittsburgh on March 25, 2010. A variety of topics of interest to everyone involved in a Clinical Documentation program and coding will be offered.

The Clinical Documentation Improvement Program also plans to provide several webinars during the remainder of fiscal year 2010 to facilitate education at the convenience of your own facility and for the very first time CDIP specific education will be provided at our Annual PHIMA meeting in May, 2010.

To stay informed of all CDIP events with PHIMA, please keep checking the PHIMA web site for further notification of future educational opportunities throughout the year and hopefully at a location near you.

Formally submitted,

Clinical Documentation Improvement Specialists Co-chairs: Paula M. Frost, RN, CTR and Michele Johnson, RN, BSN

(The CDIP executive committee members include Paula Frost, Michele Johnson, Terry Backowicz, Stephen Bradley, Chris Garey, Lori Lafaver, Vicki Marth, and honorary member, Brittany Bianco representing the PHIMA student extern from the University of Pittsburgh. The co-chairs are Paula Frost RN, CTR Reading Hospital and Medical Center and Michele Johnson RN,BSN Wellspan Health.)

Spotlight on the Treasurer: Laura Rizzo

Having a father who was a physician (retired in 1999), I knew that when I “grew up” that I wanted to pursue a healthcare career. As many new college students, I changed my major during my freshman year. I had initially planned to be a physical therapist, but the results of a career test at the University of Pittsburgh showed that my strengths were in analytical and organizational skills. This test helped me to select Health Information Management (HIM) as a career—healthcare without direct patient care.

I have worked at Lancaster General Hospital since my college graduation in 1982. I can honestly say that I have never regretted my career or employer choice. There have been many changes over the past 28 years, both in the profession and in my work place. This has certainly made for a very interesting work life!

In addition to working at Lancaster General, I have been actively involved in CPHIMA and PHIMA. I was also an adjunct faculty member in the Harrisburg Area Community College HIT Program (which sadly no longer exists) and taught ICD-9-CM and other HIM classes. I really enjoy supporting students and currently serve on the advisory boards of the Pennsylvania College of Technology Health Information Management Program, the Lancaster County Career and Technology Center (LCCTC) Medical Administrative Assistant Program and the York Technical Institute (YTI) Medical Billing and Coding Program. It has been gratifying to work with the other advisory board members and to make a difference in the lives of individuals pursuing HIM and related careers.

There are many things that I could say about my HIM career, but I thought it might be more interesting to share a little bit of personal information about me as well. This week, I was asked to complete a “Getting to Know You” questionnaire for our Transcription Services newsletter. Below are a few of the questions and answers.

What do you do on Fridays? Fridays used to be sports nights when our girls, Alicia (21) and Natalie (19), were in high school. Both cheered, so we went to a lot of football and basketball games. Now that both of the girls are in college (Alicia is currently a senior nursing student at Temple and Natalie is a freshman athletic training student, also at Temple), Joe and I usually go out to eat or get take out dinner and relax watching Jeopardy and then a movie.

Define yourself in 3 words: diplomatic, organized, optimistic

If you could have one human superpower, what would you choose? I’ve never thought about it, but I think time traveling would be pretty cool. It would be especially interesting to go back in time and meet ancestors.

Who do you admire most? There are certainly a lot of famous people to be admired, but since I don’t know any of them personally, I would have to say that I most admire my mother. She has a lot of admirable traits— intelligent, witty, non-judgmental, reserved, classy, caring, able to handle any situation in a calm, rational objective manner, etc, etc. When I have a tough decision to make, I often say to myself “what would mom do?” I also say to my daughters, “would Grandma do that?!”

What do you do for fun? I have quite a few interests. If I had the time and money, I would do a lot more traveling. My regular fun activities are Zumba classes and Cybex weight training at the gym, walking with friends (we have a 3 mile route that we do at least 4 times/week), watching Glee & Jeopardy, daily bedtime reading, and doing the Sunday News crossword puzzle. I also enjoy singing and have sung in church choirs and for weddings and funerals. I must confess that I also enjoy shopping, but am trying to cut back!

If you could pick anyone dead or alive to have lunch with, who would it be? It would be wonderful to have lunch with my Grandma Smolko (paternal grandmother). I was very close to Grandma and miss her every day. She died n November 2004. It would be great to catch up with her and to find out what it’s like to be in heaven!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as PHIMA treasurer for the past four years. I highly recommend “getting involved!”