

INHIMA

Inland Northwest Health Information Association

Welcome to 2009!

1st Quarter, 2009
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It's an exciting year for Health Information Professionals with the new administration, and the focus on nationwide interoperability of the EHR (Electronic Health Record). There are a number of ways that you can become involved as RHIT's and health care professionals. We can coordinate activities, or initiatives, lead projects or committees, educate others, or become advocates.

The new board consisting of Cindy Paap, RHIT, CCS President, Susan Blue, RHIT, President Elect, Monica Cantrell, RHIT Treasurer, Carol Johnson, RHIT, Secretary, and Cheri Hemphill, Membership Chair, is hoping that you join as we strive to become

more involved in Health Information in the Inland Northwest. There are a number of things you can do in this group. We are looking for people to help our speakers with the computer equipment at the meeting, also setting up the food, or helping out at the registration table. There are other areas you could decide to develop such as a committee for home health, core measures, or long-term care. We have several opportunities for you to participate, such as greeting members, telephoning reminders for meetings, as it is important to make everyone feel welcome! This is your INHIMA, and we would like you to join hands with the board, and help us make decisions! – Cindy Paap, President



Welcome to an exciting new year with INHIMA

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Editor: Cindy Paap

(We are always looking for your stories, and we need someone who can take pictures of our featured HIM members).

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Meet Camelia Lambert, RHIT

Many of you have seen the smiling face of Camelia Lambert, RHIT, at our registration table at our INHIMA meetings. She has been working in the Health Information Management field for seven months now. Prior to this she was a

bookkeeper, receptionist, and an office manager.

In 2005, she moved to Spokane, and her husband Randy noticed her aptitude for numbers and medical things, and encouraged her to go into Health Information Technology. At one time

Camellia thought about going into nursing, but she has sensitive skin, and the frequent hand washings prevented her from doing this. She decided that the HIM field was a perfect fit, and she did not have to get it on her hands.



Camelia Lambert story (continued from page one)

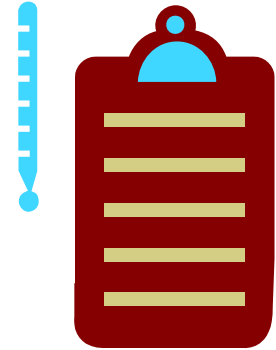
Camelia was pleased to attend her first INHIMA meeting soon after starting school in the fall of 2006. Randy urged her to become involved with the local INHIMA because this industry is small, and networking is important. She has enjoyed meeting people, volunteering at the INHIMA meetings, helping with the check-in, set up and clean-up. All of this helps her to feel more at home and comfortable.

Camelia found the job she loves at Rockwood looking at statistics and trends and seeing how they correlate together. The job in Quality Improvement was a perfect match, as she tracks patients with abnormal pap

smears to make sure they get the appropriate follow-up care. She helps out with Diabetes Day, and has learned some E & M auditing, and how to abstract patient records and report data for quality initiatives. In addition, she has worked with surveys, writing, and tabulating them, plus analyzing the results.

Although her course in Business English was not her favorite, Camelia can see the importance of it as she uses it daily to communicate with co-workers, and other people. She can see that as insurers place more and more importance on the quality of care, that the job she is in will play a key

role, and she loves that it is her job to do this.

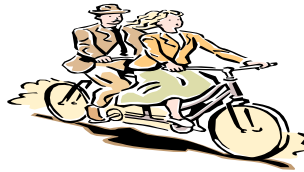


Louise Harless, Rockwood Clinic

Our second interview is with Louise Harless, who has been married for over twenty six and a half years. She has two daughters, Alison and Melissa. Alison is married, and is going to school to become a nurse, and her other daughter Melissa is a pole vaulter, who is attending college at SFCC. She has a pet schnauzer named Ollie. Did you know that Louise is an avid bicyclist, and she rides her bicycle to work from Mid-March to October? She has participated in many

rides, and the best one was across Iowa called the RAGBRAI (Registers Annual Great Bike Ride across Iowa) in the middle of July. She has completed this ride three different times and plans

“..while the week long Iowa ride is 500 miles”.



to do it again. She rides a lot with her twin sister, and rides in the Multiple Sclerosis bike ride which is 150 miles, while the week long Iowa ride is 500 miles! They raise money for this worthwhile cause. Way to go twins!

Some other things that Louise likes to do is cross country skiing in the winter, and growing vegetables in the summer.

She works at Rockwood Clinic, twenty hours a week as a Quality Improvement Assistant.

Louise Harless, Rockwood Clinic (continued)

Louise helps out with chart audits and maintains the registries for Diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease. She also is involved in organizing an event called Diabetes Day with other members from their team, which takes place on March 28, 2009. Louise likes the variety of tasks that her job provides and the people she works with.

In the future, Rockwood is working on a new registry program, and other quality measures.

Louise enjoys her membership in INHIMA, with opportunities to learn, networking with others, and CE credits to maintain her professional credentials.



Second Quarter Speakers

Mark your calendars for INHIMA'S second quarter meeting which will be on May 12, 2009.

The speakers will be: Dr. Kaya and Dr. Holbrook from Cancer Care Northwest.

Thank you to Monica Cantrell for asking them and Susan Blue who works on getting our speakers each quarter.

How can Health Information Managers Make a Difference?

There are a lot of ways that you can become involved in this industry. Over the next year, we will be providing some suggestions, and things to ponder, as the United States prepares for a nation wide electronic health record, and the implementation of ICD-10-CM.

Have you heard of the HITSP? This is the Health Information Technology Standards Panel, which is a link between the private and public sectors for the purpose of achieving a set of widely accepted standards. These standards are to support

interoperability among healthcare providers in the local, regional, and national health information network. This is exactly what each and every one of us has dreamed about, and now you have an opportunity to team up for becoming a part of the solution.

The HITSP is calling for volunteers from a variety of areas, whether you are a consumer, healthcare provider, IT software product developer, or from government agencies that develop standards for healthcare professionals and

enterprise. Everyone has a role to play, and the only thing they ask is that you sign up for their free membership.

Challenge your leadership and skills as a Health Information Manager. Is there something you can do to contribute to the interoperability of the electronic health record? If so, connect with the HITSP at:

<http://www.hitsp.org/membership.aspx>

On the Lighter Side - What if Starbucks's billed like ICD-10?

Laughter is good medicine, and every now and then you need to laugh.

Here is a link that HIM professionals will enjoy, especially the coders.

It is called "What if Starbucks billed like ICD-10"? The punch line is after point number ten, and what is funny, they refer to CPT codes in the article.

Link for "What if Starbucks...

<http://pookiemd.wordpress.com/2008/11/13/what-if-starbucks-billed-like-icd-10/>



Medical Humor: (Link: <http://www.coolfunnyjokes.com/Funny-Jokes/Medical-Jokes/2>)

A doctor, a nurse, and the top executive of an HMO have all died and are in line together at the Pearly Gates.

St. Peter speaks with them and asks what good each has done in their life.

Doctor: "I have devoted my life to the sick and needy and have had a part in caring for, and healing thousands of poor people."

St. Peter: "That's great. Go ahead in to heaven. And what about you, dear?"

Nurse: "I've supported the good doctor and his patients my entire life as an adult."

St. Peter: "Wonderful. Please proceed in with the doctor. And what about you?"

Health Maintenance Organization Director: "I was the president of a very large HMO and was responsible for the healthcare of millions of people all over the country."

St. Peter: "Oh, I see. Please go in, but you can only stay two nights!"