

ICRA Newsletter Winter 2009

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Our mascot **Charlie**
has a new friend.....

She needs to be named in 2009



Installation of new officers September 2008: (left to right)
Carol Anderson-Soy (VP); Tania Viet (Treasurer); Julie Risinger (Secretary);
Judy Sebern Beachy (Past President)

PRESIDENTS CORNER

2-11-09

Hello from Cedar Rapids,

Today we are enjoying 60 degree weather and its only Feb.....amazing, as just a few weeks ago we had record cold -29,so for all of us living here in IOWA its been a very cold winter.....and I am anxious for SPRING.....

I am so excited about the ICRA Spring Meeting In Iowa City.....its going to be a very interesting Spring Meeting, please be sure and register early and sit back and enjoy the 2009 ICRA SPRING MEETING. More information will follow in the next few weeks.

Hopefully, some ICRA members are thinking about attending NCRA in New Orleans in May 2009. National meetings are a wonderful way to network with CTR's from all over the world, and the seminars are very educational.

Hope to see all of you at the Spring Meeting in Iowa City, Spring is just around the corner, days are getting longer, and finally, its warmer.....

Sheila Janda RN,RHIT,CTR

2009 Important Dates:

April 9th: ICRA Spring Workshop in Iowa City hosted by U of I Cancer Registry

May 31st: SEER Workshop in New Orleans

May 31st – June 3rd: NCRA Annual Conference in New Orleans

September 16-17th: ICRA Fall Workshop & Business Meeting hosted by SHRI

Minutes of ICRA Board Meeting November 14, 2008

Meeting called to order at 12:15 p.m. at Ox Yoke Inn, Amana, IA.

Members present: Sheila Janda, President; Carol Anderson-Soy, Vice President; Tania Viet, Treasurer; Julie Risinger, Secretary; Judy Sebern-Beachy, Past President.

Minutes of the September 8, 2008 ICRA meeting were approved, moved by Carol Soy-Anderson, seconded by Tania Viet. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report:

Report was approved, moved by Judy Sebern-Beachy, seconded by Julie Risinger, motion carried. Judy reminded the board that 10% of profits from ICRA meetings had traditionally been given back to the host organization as a reward for hosting the meeting, The board agreed that this should be continued. Tania will research the amount of profit from the September 2008 ICRA meeting. Tania will be sending out dues notices electronically.

Old Business:

Reviewed Committees -
Library – Deb Schulte, Chair
Bylaws – Carol Soy-Anderson
Website/Newsletter – Freda Selk
Nominating
Public Relations
Program – Deb Schulte is chairing committee for 4/09 Meeting
Education
Membership

Freda and Judy will send out reminders before newsletters (late June-early July) asking for article/news submissions. Tania suggested adding more candid pictures (taken at meetings) for the newsletter in addition to the pictures of individual members on the membership list. Judy suggested that each member be asked to write a short paragraph to add to the photos containing personal information about the member, such as family, hobbies, etc. Freda would like the information e-mailed to her.

Judy mentioned that the e-mail list needs to be updated.

Tania announced that ICRA membership is 60 members at present (a record).

CTR award – One member, Erica Hemsley, has passed her CTR exam, in September. The board voted to continue sending \$100.00 stipends to members taking and passing the exam for the first time. Moved by Tania, seconded by Carol. Motion carried. Tania will send a stipend check to Erica, and she and any other new CTR's will be acknowledged at the spring ICRA meeting.

The board also agreed to continue charging a late fee for ICRA meetings and a higher non-member fee to encourage participants to become members of ICRA.

(Continued)

NCRA

NCRA's annual meeting will be May 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Discussion of obtaining CD's of the sessions of the meeting for the ICRA library. Board agreed to wait until after the meeting to make decision on whether sessions would be helpful enough to the membership to justify purchasing the CD's.

ICRA Spring Meeting

The ICRA spring meeting will be held April 9, 2009 in Iowa City, hosted by University of Iowa Healthcare's Oncology Registry. It was suggested that information about the meeting be sent to the NCRA website when the program is finalized.

ICRA dues

Tania informed the board that we have 60 members, and income from 59 members (ICRA traditionally gives 1 membership as a prize) at \$20.00 would be \$1180.00. If dues are increased to \$25 per year, income would be \$1475.00. Julie suggested that it might be better to raise the fees for meeting registration than ICRA dues, as many members pay their own annual dues, but would have registration fees paid by their hospitals/employers.

Sheila announced that the next ICRA business meeting will be held at the Fall Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussed 2008 budget – projected expenses for ICRA spring meeting.

Tania is using electronic banking at the University of Iowa Credit Union, asked if this was acceptable, and board agreed it was. They do send statements in the mail.

MEMBER INFORMATION

Will be updated on the ICRA website, including name, e-mail address, add a line for work address or territory/hospitals. Judy suggested adding credentials to the list.

GOALS/IDEAS for 2009

Judy suggested holding a "name the new ICRA crab" (purchased in addition to the one named "Charlie") at the spring ICRA meeting. It was decided to put a notice in the winter ICRA newsletter suggesting that members think about possible names. Will ask Deb to send a picture of her to Freda to add to the website.

Board decided to announce the need for people to volunteer for the program committee at the spring meeting in April, and to ask for volunteers in the next newsletter.

Sheila announced that the next business meeting of ICRA will be held at the Fall 2009 meeting.

Sheila read an e-mail from Theola Rarick with a suggestion. Scott Community College in Davenport has a Cancer Information Program, and a cancer survivor has established a
(Conintued)

scholarship fund. Theola suggested ICRA might like to contribute the scholarship fund. Judy suggested a raffle at the next ICRA meeting to fund a contribution. Carol volunteered to organize the raffle for the spring meeting. It will be announced on the website before the meeting.

Judy discussed updating the name of the President of ICRA on the NCRA website.

Tania has a copy of Roberts Rules of Order, gave her copy to Sheila.

The next board meeting will be held at the fall ICRA meeting, unless a meeting is needed at the spring ICRA meeting.

Stipend to ICRA President to attend the NCRA Meeting – moved by Judy and seconded by Tania, motion carried to provide stipend. Discussed providing registration fee, plane fare and hotel accommodations.

Tania and Julie volunteered to assemble a basket for the NCRA state raffle. Will ask membership to send ideas or donations for the basket.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Treasurer's Report (November) Iowa Cancer Registrar's Association

Starting Balance 17-September- 2008		2698.43
EXPENSES		
Meeting	385.12	
Miscellaneous	19.41	
Total Expenses	404.53	(404.53)
INCOME		
Annual Dues	\$ 20.00	
Meeting Dues	55.00	
Miscellaneous	200.00	
Total Income	275.00	(275.00)
Ending Balance 14- November- 2008		\$2,568.90

SEER WORKSHOP 2009

SEER would like to invite you to join us at the 2009 NCRA Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Feel free to contact us with any questions you may have at the following address: NCISEERQI@mail.nih.gov

We look forward to seeing you all in New Orleans!

Lois A. Dickie, CTR

direct email address: dickielo@mail.nih.gov

YOU CAN COUNT ON SEER**2009 SEER Workshop****National Cancer Registrars Association Annual Conference**

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

New Orleans, Louisiana

Topic	Statistics for Cancers Registrars
Workshop Dates	Sunday, May 31, 2009
Workshop Time	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Workshop Location	Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
Workshop Attendees	Registrars Seating is limited to 100 participants
Workshop Fee	There is no fee for this workshop.
Registration	ALL registrations must be made ONLINE Registration Opens: February 23, 2009 Registration URL: http://www.blsm meetings.net/2009SEERWorkshop Registration Closes: March 31, 2009
Questions	Contact Antoinette Percy-Laurry (nciseerqi@mail.nih.gov)

FALL 2008 ICRA WORKSHOP EVALUATION Form

9-18-2008

Attendance was 49; with 32 evaluations returned**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

LOW (1)HIGH

(5)

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. Discuss the importance of good documentation in abstracting & coding of Breast, Melanoma, and Lymphoma cases. | 4.5 |
| 2. Identify coding errors commonly found on Breast, Melanoma and Lymphoma abstracts. | 4.3 |
| 3. Understand the new data fields regarding Ambiguous Terminology and Multiplicity; the coding of CS Evaluation Fields; the coding of Colon CS SSF 2, reporting source, and insurance. | 3.6 |
| 4. Learn the anatomy, morphology and staging of GU sites including Kidney, Bladder and Ureter. | 4.5 |
| 5. Identify changes to Iowa Specific Coding Rules due to DMS (the new Data Management System at SHRI). | 4.4 |

Please rate the overall workshop:

Poor ____ Fair **(1)= 3%** Good **(23)= 72%** Excellent **(8)= 25%**

Relationship of content of this program to my job is:

Poor ____ Fair ____ Good **(13) =41%** Excellent **(18)= 56%** N/A **(1)= 3%**

Please rate the training materials/handouts/visuals used in the presentations.

Poor **(1)= 3%** Fair **(5)= 16%** Good **(19)= 59%** Excellent **(7) = 22%**

Comments written in here:

"kill some trees! I want printouts!"

"helpful if handouts are available at time of presentation to make notations on"

"Please keep in mind not everyone has excellent email capabilities"

How would you rate the presentations?

Poor ____ Fair **(4)= 12%** Good **(23)= 72%** Excellent **(5)= 16%**

Comments:

"The presentations were read- some presentation were not consistent with words, so what they said became confusing. It is critical to know your material and be confident"

"Please do not read to us; give us the overview of the rule; then give us simple examples cases that are not in the manuals"

"Less reading of materials by presenters, we can read the materials ourselves, more instructing"

The facilities for this workshop were:

Poor ____ Fair ____ Good **(13)= 41%** Excellent **(19)= 59%**

Comment written in here:

“chilly”

“Wonderful location”

“as always, too cold but excellent facility”

What were the best features of this workshop?

1. “Good networking; celebration of organization, review of quality review. Would have liked to have time to review & discuss coding on six cases completed”
2. “Dr Platz is wonderful to listen to! His material is interesting, up to date and relevant, please thank him”
3. “Good information. Great to see feed back on our abstracts, thans for all your hard work doing review. It is nice to have feedback on our actual cases”
4. “Dr Platz presentation on kidney and urinary tract; reviewing expected documentation requirements”
5. “Dr Platz explains things well”
6. “current issues were covered”
7. “good space and meeting room”
8. “carrot cake!”
9. “good topics and good use of time”
10. “practice exercises”
11. “breakfast”
12. “For me 1 & 2 will be most useful”
13. “Each presentation not overly long”... liked shorter day
14. “Relevant to my work; good facility for meetings”
15. “shorter time for speakers, review of current or upcoming issues”
16. “carrot cake”; going over texting issues; new field items”
17. “Texting overview was good, Quality Control is always my favorite issue- hashing out the coding rules”
18. “Good idea to have ICRA meeting at beginning of day. Dr Platz was good, he needs more than an hour for any of his talks”

What topics would you like covered at future workshop?

1. More anatomy and tumor info; back to basics- standard coding of primary site, histology, etc. ; new rules and problem areas.
2. "Collaborative staging and TNM staging (changes)"
3. "Ovary = EXT codes; general clarification
4. "more review MPH rules"
5. "Electronic manual demonstration"
6. "Head and Neck; and prostate"
7. "ovary extension and female genital organs, origin of primary site: cervix, uteri, myometrium, uterus"
8. "Prostate review of codes that have changed and why SEER hasn't fixed things yet. Why SEER is so far behind the ACOS in having to report cases like 2006 in 2008? This is almost 2 yrs behind, that is not good for studies or case review"

Any Other Comments:

1. "Please have all handouts available at the beginning of class"
2. "Great idea to update abbrev list.
3. Last year Bobbie Matt stressed they preferred less abbreviations and more spelled out text, which is either conflicting or now is a change from last year's workshop. Do agree this met a continued education objective, needed further clarification.
4. "allot more time for presentations so we can stick to the agenda better"
5. "have handouts of ALL slides available for note taking"
6. Unfortunate Rod's presentation got cut short for staff that will have to start using these data items in 2008 DX year.
7. "room was cold"
8. "It is hard to hear when SHRI people are talking in the back row. When someone is talking up front, there should be no talking in the audience"
9. "Best meeting yet! I really appreciated the central registry staff and the work they do as represented in this meeting"
10. "Not enough time to cover topics, especially when there are practice cases"
11. "Dr Platz should be in the morning, not right after lunch"
12. "it would be nice to have a sheet for lunch options in the area, those from out of town don't know where all to go that is close by and fast"

Minutes of ICRA Fall Business Meeting
Thursday, September 18, 2008
8:15 AM
Iowa City, IA

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 AM, after Judy Sebern-Beachy showed a slide presentation with the theme "We're all in This Together", created by Renee Hoyt. Judy also asked everyone present to introduce him/herself and new members were introduced.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Deb Schulte made a motion that the minutes from the prior meeting be approved without additions or corrections. Motion seconded by Cindy Burgin. Motion voted and passed.

REPORTS:

A. Treasurer's report – Ending balance was \$2698.00 as of 9/17/08. Deb Schulte thanked the members present for allowing her to serve as Treasurer for the past year.

B. Secretary's report – The secretary, Kari Suhr, was not present at the meeting due to maternity leave for the adoption of her new daughter. Judy shared pictures of Kari's new family.

C. Bylaws Committee – No report.

D. Nomination Committee – reported by Cindy Burgin: results of ballots for 2008-2009 officers:

President: Sheila Janda

Vice President: Carol Anderson Soy

Treasurer: Tania Viet

Secretary: Julie Risinger

E. Library Committee: Deb Schulte reported increased utilization of the library's materials over the past year, and asked for ideas/suggestions for books or other materials for the library.

F. Web Site: Freda Selk/Deb Schulte reported that the committee is working on developing a "Members Only" section, and the member pictures/bios will be updated.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. **Naming of Crab Mascot:** Judy announced the name of our mascot, "Charlie". The winner of the contest to name the mascot is Virginia Forest who won free membership dues to ICRA for 2009. Deb Schulte suggested "Charlie" could be displayed during Cancer Registrars Week, and Judy asked for other suggestions for displaying or using the mascot.

- B. **Flood fund:** Judy thanked members for their generosity in contributing to the fund to help ICRA members affected by the recent floods in Iowa. The Louisiana Registry also sent a contribution to the fund, and she will distribute a thank you note to be signed by those present at the meeting. Rhonda Hosler thanked everyone for the check, and added she has put it to good use. Kathy Schau sent a thank you note which was read to the membership by Judy Sebern-Beachy. Judy also proposed that the Board consider a gesture to support people in Texas affected by the hurricanes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **ICRA Spring Meeting:** Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center's Oncology Registry at University of Iowa Healthcare will host the ICRA spring meeting April 9, 2009, in Iowa City. The fall meeting will be held Sept 17, 2009 hosted by the State Health Registry of Iowa in Iowa City. The NCRA meeting will be held in New Orleans, LA in May, 2009.

B. Other New Business:

1. Cindi Dryer announced that member Bobbi Matt has finished her degree in Business Administration with a minor in Finance, and was congratulated by the membership.
2. Judy announced that ERS Software company donated items for the membership at the meeting today, and also sent a monetary contribution of \$200.00 which will be used for our next educational workshop.

Deb Schulte made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, Cindi Burgin seconded. Motion voted and passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 AM, and was followed by the installation of new officers.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Risinger, CTR (for Secretary Kari Suhr)

(END)