



OREGON CANCER REGISTRARS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Happy Autumn Cancer Registrars, I hope you enjoyed the Fall Conference as much as I did.

What a wonderful way to network with coworkers, learn new ways to do old things; learn about implementing standards and so much more. Connie and Carol and the education committee did a terrific job.

The ice-bucket challenge was too funny and too cold. My family could not believe I actually did it! OCRA sent a challenge to WSTRA to participate and I can't wait to see what they say! For any of you who were unable to attend, or participate, it is on You-tube!

Congratulations to our 2015 Executive Committee. I know they will do a great job for us next year. I would like to encourage you to run for office next year. Please don't think of it as competition, think of it as having a willingness to serve. Our Association has served us well over the years and I have learned since becoming president that it isn't nearly as scary or time consuming as it sounds. It is rewarding in so many ways. Please consider participating more in the coming year. We still have open slots in our Committee rosters and we would love to have some of you volunteer. Your input matters! It is what keeps us growing, getting stronger and better! As we look towards the changing season, we are all looking at changes as well. I have always said that the one constant in being a Cancer Registrar is change. Let's take it on with gusto! We are the experts at what we do and we make a difference in so many ways. We can do whatever the Commission asks of us but it is so much better with a group of colleagues like you to ask questions to and learn from. I thank you all for your willingness to share.

FALL

FALL 2014

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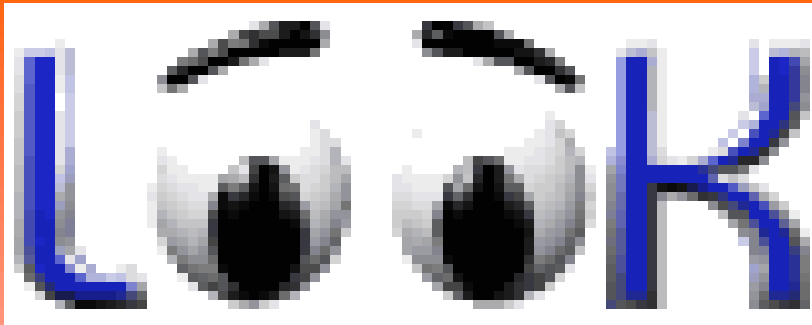
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Bonnie Kubli

CTR exam scholarships:

MICHELE HENSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP available thru ORCA which pays for the cost of the exam up to the NCRA members' cost.

APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE OCRA WEBSITE: <http://www.ocra-oregon.org>



Interesting Tidbits

[Chest Radiation](#)

[Finding Drugs for Hard to Treat Forms of Leukemia](#)

[Rules Changing for Some Pain Medicine Prescriptions](#)

[Researchers identify early sign of pancreatic cancer](#)

Registry News

DMA Winner for 2014 is.....Martha Curl

Congratulations. It is a honor that she has earned. She has a heart for cancer registry

Vickie Wiltsey, retiring

As I am sitting at this year's fall workshop, it is both exciting and sad. I am retiring this month.

I look around the room and realize what an incredible career I've had. And also realize that I am the only one in the room to have taken the first CTR exam in 1983. So many of my peers, friends, have either, retired or passed away. What a group of us back then. We all took our exam in Portland and then collapsed at the local bar to compare answers and we were all sure none of passed the exam. The waiting was horrible, but I am happy to say we all made it. At that time no one knew what the exam would entail. There were no study modules to use. OTRA (Oregon Tumor Registrar Association) developed our own study modules and we studied in groups. One of the sections I did the worst on was computerization. Back then, we did not have computers. All of our abstracts were done on paper and sent to a Central Registry for them to input our data. I didn't have a clue what the difference between hardware and software was. Look were we are 30 yrs later.

Our "Threads" were each other and the phone. My registry was 2 years behind when I took it over and I will never forget my mentors, Marilyn Desler, Diana Mahin, Karen Brown, Alice Pernitti and Bernitta Woods. Dr. Ted Willilamson was Salem Hospital's advisor for the registry. He would not budge on our reference date, so it was struggle to get follow-up caught up. We worked with tickler cards for follow-up. To this day Salem Hospital still has a reference date of 1960. Later on we were introduced to the Oregon Comprehensive Data Management team (OCDP) all of our abstracts were submitted on paper to them and they did a 100% QA on every case. This was the beginning of data consistency between hospitals. And a wonderful leaning tool for all.

My career has allowed me to use my expertise in many ways. I worked for Salem Hospital for 13 years as the registry supervisor. I was then blessed and privileged to take a job with Onco Inc. I was there for 12 years. I was a support/trainer for their software OncoLog. I was able to travel the United States , meeting registrar's and connecting with them. It was an opportunity I cherish to this day.

It has been a pleasure to be part of great organization such at OCRA. I served in just about every office there was. I cannot express my thanks to all members that run for office. I hope everyone will continue to support OCRA by running for office and mentoring the new registrar's coming along. Enjoy the ride of changes always taking place. I refer to it as my "Lumosity", keeping my mind active

I look forward to spending more time with grandkids, and two spoiled cats, my craft room, my beading, traveling, bible study and sleeping in. I am keeping my CTR for awhile, just in case I get bored and want to get back in the game (part time). So who knows? I may see you at another workshop in the future.

Take care and be blessed...

Vickie Wiltsey, CTR



Preparation



DOWNSEED





A few highlights from the workshop

For OSCaR's list the term non-analytic **IS NOT** synonymous with not reportable.

Consult only path reports are not reportable

REMEMBER, SEER summary stage will be coming back with our 2016 cases and we will no longer be required to do CS.

There is also a discussion of updating summary staging, as our last update was in 2000.

—Submitted by Martha Curl

Head and Neck

HPV + is only in the oropharynx. HPV positive is radically different the HPV negative.

Remember HPV is a virus.

Age of these pts are ~ 40-60.

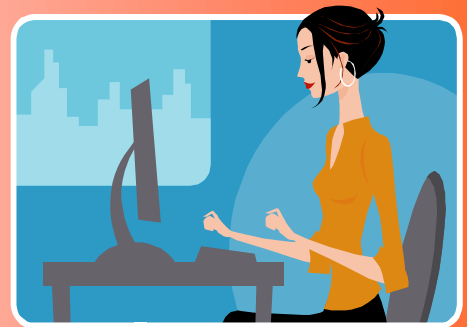
Fall Workshop in 2015 will be hosted by OHSU and location to be determined and in 2016 workshop will be hosted by SCMC.



Ah, the life; beautiful view; free food and a +warm sunny day and no worries about tomorrow.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Just a note to say that the workshop was worth the trip. Several interesting speakers and some good discussions.



2014 Elected Officials

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