

OCRA Newsletter



February 1, 2023
Winter/1st Quarter



President's Message

Hello fellow OCRA members!

It's already 2023 and I am the president this year! I have some mighty big shoes to fill as Shelley did such a wonderful job for the last two years. Our "new normal" had its challenges so she stayed on as our president for two years instead of one! A big thank-you to her as she assumes the role of past-president and our newsletter editor.



I encourage each of you to reach out to all members of your Cancer Registries who are not current OCRA members and share some of the benefits of joining. I know they will find the benefits are well worth the effort and small dues.

This year we plan to have a two-day OCRA education conference just like the pre-Covid days! The education committee will be meeting soon to start planning the event. It's a great time to network, get acquainted with new CTR's and earn CEU's.

I look forward to serving this year with the new Executive Committee and the subcommittees who are all supporting the organization with their talent and dedication to our profession. Please feel free to call me or anyone on the EC with questions or suggestions.

Respectfully,

Bonnie Kubli

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Spring newsletter submission?
Email Shelley Lindsey at
shelley.lindsey@providence.org

And now a few words from our newest EC Members:



Laura Wallace, CTR, OCRA 2024 President Elect



Hi Everyone! I obtained my CTR in 2003 after receiving my RHIT several years prior. I've held several roles in our field, mostly managing registries, managing CoC programs and abstracting. I also held a role in research for several years, managing the Children's Oncology Group (COG) program and accreditation which was probably the most rewarding and difficult position I've had. Putting children on study that have cancer is a whole other level.

I've served as OCRA's secretary and newsletter editor for many years. I've admired our colleagues that have continued to serve year after year to help maintain our organization....so a shout out to Shelley, Martha, Bonnie, Deb, Ron, Nicole – my apologies for those I'm missing. We are an amazing group of dedicated people. I look forward to the next few years and hope to serve our organization well – and encourage others to join us! It's our field, it's rewarding to be part of this group, it's a great way to advance your skills, and an amazing way to network.

Marsha Beal, CTR, OCRA 2023 Secretary

Hello! I started out in the Cancer Registry in 2007 at Samaritan in Corvallis (thanks to Mary Jo Riggs who didn't give up on me) and have been at OHSU since 2010. I love the work we do and cancer registrars are some of my favorite people to work with. We are so passionate about our work! I appreciate that we all try to understand confusing and conflicting rules and always do our best. The work is a challenge and never boring.

I have been OCRA Secretary a couple of times, participated in the Education Committee a few times and the Audit Committee once. I like to feel like I am doing my part, so I jump in now and then; not always enthusiastically in the beginning, but after I get started it's always enjoyable and enriching. OCRA has a good group of people to get to know. It is worth the effort.



OCRA Committee FACTS:

Office of President—A three year commitment, only one of those year as acting President overseeing the OCRA EC. Your first year is learning the ropes with outlined responsibilities. Your second year, is overseeing the organizations endeavors, but everything is all outlined and easily maneuverable. Your third and final year, you sit back and offer your input if needed, have a few outlined responsibilities.

Office of Secretary—A two year commitment of scheduling, minutes and keeping the pack on track.

Office of Treasurer—A two year commitment of OCRA financial duties like keeping statements in order, check writing, dues tracking, and reporting OCRA's financial standing to EC and membership.

Nominating Committee—Elected positions with a 1-year term. The majority of their work takes place from June to September. In 2023 we elect 2 new members to this committee.

Committees—The following is a list of active committees which are volunteer positions.

- Education Committee
- Welcome Committee
- Audit/Finance Committee
- By-Laws Committee
- Communications Committee

Time commitment for all positions is estimated at no more than 2-hours per month.

ACS CAnswer

<https://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums/CAnswerForumHome>



National Comprehensive Cancer Network®
<https://www.nccn.org/guidelines>



- **Active - \$105:** An individual whose primary occupation is related to cancer registry work
- **Associate - \$90:** An individual interested in the purpose of the association, but does not meet the qualifications of active membership
- **Inactive - \$50:** An individual who previously qualified as an active member, but is no longer in the workforce or cancer registry field
- **Sustaining - \$200:** Individuals, institutions or organizations interested in promoting the principles and purposes of NCRA
- **Student - \$40:** An individual who is enrolled full- or part-time in a college-level curriculum and is interested in NCRA's purpose
- **International - \$65:** An individual who is not a resident of North America

CTR Exam

Testing Dates and Deadlines

March 31 - April 22, 2023; application deadline: March 24

June 30 - July 22, 2023; application deadline: June 23

October 13 - November 4, 2023; application deadline: October 6

Member Spotlight—Focusing On Our Students

Josie Layton, OCRA Student Member 2023-2024

Josie originally learned about the cancer registry field when searching online health careers after graduating from OSU in 2018. She wanted to find a career in healthcare where she could make a difference while still utilizing her degree in Health Humanities. Josie also wanted a field which she could challenge herself and continue to learn new skills.

Josie is currently enrolled in classes through AHIMA and is hoping to take her CTR exam in the summer or fall of 2023. She is focusing on schooling full-time and currently searching for practicum opportunities since she is nearing the end of her studies. Josie says, “I have enjoyed learning so much about the cancer registry field and all the work and effort it takes in order to track cancer cases in the U.S. I have enjoyed learning the history of the cancer registry and its early beginnings have really made me appreciate their contributions to advancing oncology practices.” Five years from now Josie hopes to feel comfortable and confident in the field, and continue to learn and grow her skills as a CTR.

Josie currently lives in Salem, Oregon, with her parents, sister, and family cat, Isabel. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family at home or traveling the beautiful Pacific Northwest. She also likes gardening, DIY home projects, and having game nights with her friends.

Josie’s closing comment, “I am so excited to be joining all of you here at OCRA and am looking forward to working as a CTR soon!”



Teresa Taylor, OCRA Student Member 2022-2023

Teresa’s road began as a coder for St. Charles’ Medical Oncology clinic. There she learned how the data that cancer registrars create is used. She knew this profession would perfectly meet her desire to perform work that helps to make a difference. Teresa completed the AHIMA Cancer Registry Management Program and the NCRA Virtual Practicum. She has a BS in Nursing from OHSU, and an MS in Information and Library Science from UIUC. Teresa is planning to take her CTR exam during the first testing window this year. When asked what she thought about the courses and what she enjoyed most she replied, “I have enjoyed all the courses, but my favorites have been those that included practice using the manuals and guidelines to code and abstract ‘real-life’ scenarios.”

Teresa currently works as a Pro-Fee Medical Coder for St. Charles in Bend. In her six years, she has also coded for Radiation Oncology, Pulmonology, Critical Care, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Hospitalists, Emergency Department, Stress Tests and Echocardiology. When asked, where would you like to see yourself in five years? Teresa replied, “I hope I can say that I have been a cancer registrar abstracting and coding for over four years, getting more and more confident and proficient, and able to act as a resource for, and provide support to, other registrars or aspiring registrars.”

Teresa’s mother was diagnosed with widely metastatic small cell lung cancer (SCLC) about ten years ago. Even though she had been an RN for sixteen years, she says she knew very little about cancer, let alone SCLC. At the time of her mother’s diagnosis, Teresa was a medical librarian and looked up guidelines and basic resources to educate herself on SCLC in a very short period of time. “To say that I have learned a great deal more (because of the cancer registry courses and coding medical oncology encounters) since that time is a tremendous understatement, AND I know I am just beginning this new adventure and have so much more to learn.” Something else Teresa wonders, “Perhaps when you have had family and friends diagnosed with cancer, your appreciation of the importance of quality cancer data is solidified in a certain way?”



Member Spotlight continued...

Monica Murray, Student Member 2022-2023

Monica earned her BA in psychology from UC Davis and an MSW from Humboldt State. Recently, she decided to make a career shift to remote work when she found out about the cancer registry field. The nature of the work intrigued her and her research into it led her to the OCRA website. She was routed to the OCRA President, Shelley Lindsey, who provided her guidance in getting started on pursuing education for becoming a CTR.

Monica is currently enrolled in an online CIM program through Hutchinson Community College in Hutchinson, Kansas. She expects to take her CTR exam in 2024. To date, her courses have been prerequisites for the program and an introductory course on cancer registry structure and management. When asked what she thought about the courses and what she enjoyed learning most about, Monica replied, "I've really enjoyed all of the classes so far. One thing I learned last semester is that there are plenty of acronyms in the field of cancer registry! A&P is a fascinating subject and medical terminology interests me because I like to learn about language and word origins. I look forward to applying what I learned last semester to what comes next, and to learning more about the specifics of the profession." What do the next five years look like for Monica? "On a professional level, my goals are to complete my coursework, pass the CTR exam, and secure remote work. Along the way I look forward to developing experience from my volunteer assignments, student practicum, first job, and continuing education. I love to learn, and from what I can discern so far, changes and updates are a key component to the field of cancer registry, so I look forward to discovering what is to come."

Monica is currently looking for part-time remote work. She is currently volunteering for a non-profit hospice and recently joined the OCRA Education Committee as a new volunteer.

Monica grew up in California where she worked professionally as a horse trainer and then a voiceover actor before returning to school to earn a graduate degree. She has been a resident of Oregon since 2012, when she relocated to be with her fiancé, Chris Holmes. Together they have owned a coffee roasting business, and although a part of the past, continue to roast their own coffee at home. She enjoys nature and observing all it has to offer. She loves horses and likes to travel.

Monica and Chris (see pg. 5) are both new OCRA Student Members in pursuit of their CTR's. The photo above is Monica and Chris in Brookings, OR, on a gorgeous day last October. A friendly stranger took this photo of them.



**PanCAN
PURPLESTRIDE
PORTLAND 2023**

EVENT

[PurpleStride Portland 2023](#)

Saturday, April 29, 2023

TEAM

MAMA JANE

TEAM CAPTAIN

[Kathy Mayer](#)

Kathy created a fundraising team "MAMA JANE" for the PurpleStride Pancreatic Cancer Fundraising Walk on April 29th, 2023. If you would like to join the team or donate to the cause (in honor of her mom), please contact Kathy Mayer at mayerk@ohsu.edu for more information.

Member Spotlight continued...

Chris Holmes, OCRA Student Member 2022-2023

Chris first learned about the cancer registry field when his fiancé, Monica Murray, shared her research about the field with him. He was also contemplating a career change and decided to take a couple prerequisite courses and learn more about the work. Once Chris completed the prerequisites, he decided to apply for the program. Since he enjoys research and working with data he felt this was a good fit. Chris is currently pursuing an online AAS in HIM with an emphasis in Cancer Registry Management at Hutchinson Community College in Hutchinson, Kansas. He expects to take his CTR exam in 2024.

When asked what he thought about his courses to date he replied, "I'm still in the beginning of my coursework. As difficult as the A&P class was, I still think the human body is truly fascinating - the endless complexity and infinite learning curve is intriguing. I have experience in IT and database management, so learning about how things are structured and managed within the registries and in healthcare is also interesting to me."

Chris is working miscellaneous part-time jobs, and is currently seeking an entry level remote job related to the cancer registry field. He plans on joining NCRA soon to take advantage of the mentoring program offered. Right now his focus is on school and learning as much as he can. Once he is through his practicum and has passed his CTR exam, his goals will be all about getting established in the field. In five years, he sees himself working remotely, continuing to learn and keeping at developing his hobbies.

Chris has been around horses most of his life, and has competed in eventing and dressage. He hopes to once again have some property for horses in the future. He also enjoys working with ceramics and has a tiny, tiny kiln he has nicknamed Gloria. He has hopes of setting up a garden to grow most of the veggies he and Monica eat. Chris enjoys traveling, and has been to Germany, much of the U.S. by car, and especially loves the California coastal redwoods (Can you spot Chris in the photo with the redwood tree?). For his next adventure, he would like to see the Grand Canyon.



California coastal redwood trip 2018.

Chris grew up in the Bay Area of California and lived in Hawaii for two years where he graduated from High School. He moved to Oregon and worked at Nike, Inc., after studying automation. That led to taking some computer classes and he moved into the IT arena for many years focusing on system administration. He has lived in Oregon most of his life, and has a 15-year-old daughter who rides hunter/jumpers and plays volleyball to which he says, "Watching the games each season is a blast." His parents, originally from Mississippi, have made the jump to Oregon from California as well. A shout out to Chris's grandmother, Mama Hazel, a retired nurse, who still lives in Mississippi and will be celebrating her 104th birthday this July.



January	February	March
Nicole Davis	Shannon Vosika	Shelley Lindsey
Kelly Denniston		
Jodi Phillips		
Jodi Taylor		

Member Spotlight continued...

Bonnie Willard, OCRA Student Member 2022-2023

In 2020, Bonnie had back surgery for a rare spinal nerve root cyst, with a warning from her neurosurgeon to do everything possible to avoid future injury. At that time, she was 19 years into her career as a Radiologic Technologist, and knew that the requirements to continue in the field were not sustainable going forward. While anticipating a career change, it was during her recovery period that she came across an article in the American Society of Radiologic Technologists journal by a CTR who used to be an RT(R). "The article was a great intro into the cancer registry world and her experience as a Rad Tech transitioning into the role of a CTR." From there, Bonnie did a deep dive on google and it didn't take her long to realize that the cancer registry was the path she wanted to pursue.

Bonnie is currently enrolled in the CIM program through Rochester Community and Technical College. She expects to take her CTR exam later this year. When asked what she thought about the courses and what she enjoyed most, she replied, "I am really enjoying the courses at RCTC, they are well organized. I am fascinated by the amount of detailed data that CTRs collect for the registry and the important role it plays in the world of cancer research. It really is a field that flies under the radar. Although I did attend a few tumor boards back in my x-ray student days, the cancer registry was still a mystery to me until recently." In the next five years, Bonnie hopes to be well on her way to becoming a seasoned CTR and looks forward to finding her place within a strong registry team. She was fortunate to have an amazing group of co-workers at Providence St. Vincent's Medical Center, where she spent 17 years working in the Radiology department as an X-ray Technologist, and hopes to find that again in the CTR world. She says, "From my experience with meeting CTRs working in the field so far, I think I will have no trouble finding that!"



Bonnie is currently a full-time student and looking for work within a cancer registry to gain experience. She is also hoping to find some practicum experience in the Portland area, which she anticipates starting in May this year.

In her free time, Bonnie most enjoys hiking, reading, traveling, and baking. She currently lives in Portland, Oregon, with her husband (also a Rad Tech), her 10-year-old daughter, and a Siberian Forest Cat named Ziggy.

Hospital Registrar Mentoring Program

Find a Mentor

Your decision to request an NCRA Mentor to assist with your professional growth as a cancer registrar is important! Carefully read the FAQs listed below, then complete the online form to **request a Hospital Registry Mentor**. NCRA's Mentoring Committee will work to assign you a mentor. NCRA cannot guarantee a mentor will be identified for all mentee applicants.

<https://www.ncra-usa.org/Education/Mentoring-Program>

Become a Mentor

NCRA Mentors share wisdom and knowledge gained through professional experience to inspire others to advance in the cancer registry field. Carefully read the FAQs listed below to better understand the responsibilities and the process, then complete the online form to **register as a Hospital Registry Mentor**. NCRA's Mentoring Committee will work with you to find the right mentee.

2023 Conferences

THU
20

April 20 - April 21

WSTRA

WSTRA In-Person Educational Spring Meeting

Save the Date! Details to come!

NCRA Annual Educational Conference

<https://www.ncra-usa.org/Conference/2023-NCRA-Annual-Conference>



SAILING TOWARDS NEW HORIZONS

NCRA 2023 ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

MAY 7-10, 2023 • SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



Virtual Attendee Rates:

In-Person Attendee Rates:

Before March 15, 2023: \$495 (member)

Before March 15, 2023: \$595 (nonmember)

After March 15, 2023: \$685 (member)

After March 15, 2023: \$810 (nonmember)



Oregon Cancer Registrars' Association

SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 26-27, 2023

OCRA FALL WORKSHOP 2023

Workshop Location:
Samaritan Center for
Health Education
Newport, OR



Come join us to connect and learn!
More details to follow



2023 CCRA ANNUAL EDUCATION MEETING

Check back soon for more details.

<https://ccraregistrars.org/annualmeeting/register/>

Breaking News...



BREAKING HEADLINES

We Hear You: Change is Coming

To ensure the Certified Tumor Registrar (CTR®) credential name aligns with current cancer registry professional practice terminology and the evolving scope of practice, NCRA and its Council on Certification are changing the name of the credential. **NCRA anticipates announcing the new credential name in mid-2023 with an implementation date of January 1, 2024.**

Once the new credential name is announced, detailed guidance will be provided to assist current credential holders, standard setters, and affiliated organizations to help manage the transition, including details on how to work with human resource departments, hospitals, and central registry administration.

NCRA encourages all members to visit the **NCRA Credential Update webpage** where you can download and read the **CTR Credential Name Change Fact Sheet** for a history of the credential, NCRA member contributions, and the development plan for the new credential's release.

Questions? E-mail adminsupport@ncra-usa.org.

BREAKING HEADLINES

Hmmm....Certified Oncology Data Analyst? Or maybe, Certified Oncology Data Specialist?



Harvesters of
Data to Nurture
Cancer Research

National Cancer
Registrars Week
April 3-7, 2023

#NCRW23

The logo for the National Cancer Registrars Association, featuring a white crescent moon shape to the left of the text "National Cancer Registrars Association" in a serif font.

<https://www.ncra-usa.org/>

Preparing for 2023 Cases

Along with a new year comes new rules, new changes and now more than ever, CTR's must pay close attention to even more detail. Some manuals are updated and used immediately, but others are specific to the diagnosis date. Never save manuals to your desktop. Always bookmark the source in your favorites to access the most current version.

Below are the most current manuals in use.

STandards for Oncology Registry Entry

STORE 2023

Effective for Cases Diagnosed
January 1, 2023

Released August 1, 2022

Only cases diagnosed in 2023 will use the new surgery codes included within this manual. For all diagnoses in 2022, you will need to refer back to the 2022 STORE Manual for the proper surgery code regardless if the surgery was performed in 2023.

Be sure to check out the Summary of Changes in STORE 2023 pgs. 31-41.

Solid Tumor Rules

Effective with Cases Diagnosed 1/1/2018 and Forward

2023 Update

1. The **purpose** of these rules is to determine **multiple primaries** and to code **histology ONLY**. The Solid Tumor Rules are **not used** to determine case reportability, casefinding, stage, or tumor grade. For instructions on coding grade, stage, SSDIs, and treatment, please refer to the appropriate manuals.
2. Staging systems are **not used** to determine the number of primaries or histology.
3. Use the following site-specific rules for tumors diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward:
 - Malignant CNS and Peripheral Nerves
 - Non-Malignant CNS
 - Breast
 - Colon
 - Head and neck
 - Kidney
 - Lung
 - Urinary sites
4. Use the following site-specific rules for tumors diagnosed 1/1/2021 forward:
 - Cutaneous Melanoma
5. Use the following site-specific rules for tumors diagnosed 1/1/2007 through 12/31/2022:
 - Other Sites (not updated for 2018) for solid tumors which occur in primary sites not covered by the site-specific rules.
6. 2007 MPH Rules, 2018 Solid Tumor Rules, 2021 Cutaneous Melanoma Rules, and 2023 Other Sites Rules are used based on **date of diagnosis**. See the site-specific rules for instruction on which rules to use.
 - Tumors diagnosed 01/01/2007 through 12/31/2017: Use 2007 MPH Rules
 - Tumors diagnosed 01/01/2018 and later: Use 2018 Solid Tumor Rules (with exceptions in #4)
 - An original tumor diagnosed before 1/1/2018 and a subsequent tumor diagnosed 1/1/2018 or later **in the same primary site**: Use the 2018 Solid Tumor Rules
 - A melanoma diagnosed before 1/1/2021 and a subsequent melanoma diagnosed 1/1/2021 or later: Use the 2021 Cutaneous Melanoma Rules
 - A primary using Other Sites MPH rules diagnosed before 1/1/2023 and a subsequent primary also covered in Other Sites diagnosed 1/1/2023 or later: Use the 2023 Other Sites Rules

Preparing for 2023 Cases

Site-Specific Data Item (SSDI) Manual

Effective with Cases Diagnosed 1/1/2018 and Forward



Published October 2022

Version 3.0

Grade Coding Instructions and Tables

Effective with Cases Diagnosed 1/1/2018 and Forward



Published October 2022

Version 3.0

Points to Ponder

- All Sars-COV-2 associated fields are for cases diagnosed 2020-2021 only.
- For Breast, the four recently added surgery and reconstructions codes are only required for diagnosis year 2022.
- Rectal primaries, the Macroscopic Evaluation of Mesorectum is required on **ALL** rectal cases, regardless of date of diagnosis. TME information will only be found on LAR and APR surgical cases. Transanal excision and other surgery types are not considered Total Mesorectal Excision.
- For Breast 2023 diagnoses, Allred Score for ER/PR is no longer required.



QA Corner

Patient w/breast CA dx 5/1/2021, ER/PR+, w/treatment plan surgery & hormones. Tamoxifen started 5/15/2021 at outside facility prior to 6/15/2021 surgery at outside facility. Referred to my facility for medical oncology management. Seen for consult 8/1/2021, med onc recommends patient to continue Tamoxifen which patient is currently taking from the original outside facility Rx, and no additional modalities. Patient requires a refill, and new Rx is called in under the direction of my med onc on 7/20/2022.

What is the Date of First Contact for my facility? 7/20/2022

What is the Class of Case for my facility? Class of Case 21

Date Hormone Started? 5/15/2021

Rationale: When HT is started at a different facility and continues their prescribed first course at your facility AND there is confirmation that the patient took the prescribed Rx, then the case is considered an analytic case. This is no different than any other treatment modality occurring at more than one reporting facility. If it is part of their planned first course of treatment, it is reportable when the treatment is started (not the date of the consult).

Follow up for this case scenario is extremely important to determine if the patient actively took the medication. Office visits with statements like 'doing well on HT' or 'pt tolerating Tamoxifen well' will confirm that treatment is being provided.

Submitted by Nicole Davis, CTR (response confirmed through CAnswer Forum)

OCRA Scholarships and Awards

All of the following topics can be found on the OCRA website and in the most current version of the OCRA By-laws.

The **Michele Henson Memorial Scholarship Award** provides reimbursement for the cost of successfully passing the CTR exam. OCRA awards two recipients each year at the OCRA Fall Workshop or General Business Meeting. To apply for this scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a member of OCRA in good standing
- Must be eligible to sit for the exam
- Complete and submit the required application paperwork before August 31st
- Not eligible for any other reimbursement

See <https://www.ocra-oregon.org/resources/michele-henson-memorial-scholarship-fund/> for more information about this scholarship.

The **April Fritz Memorial Scholarship Award** provides the cost of the registration fee for the OCRA Fall Workshop. This award is given to one individual once a year. This award can only be received once in a members lifetime. To apply for this scholarship, applicant must:

- Be a member in good standing
- Not receive funding from another source
- Submit application to the OCRA Treasurer before the last scheduled EC Meeting prior to the Fall Workshop

See <https://www.ocra-oregon.org/resources/workshops/> for more information.



OCRA also has a **New CTR Recognition Award**. New CTR's who are current members of OCRA in good standing receive a \$25.00 check for their achievement. No application is required, just notify a member of the OCRA EC of your achievement.

The **OCRA Distinguished Member Award** is given annually to an outstanding OCRA member who has contributed to OCRA and/or the Cancer Registry profession in ways that have impacted others. A nomination form and a short essay are required and must be submitted to the OCRA Secretary no later than July 31st. Recipient will be kept secret until announcement at the OCRA Fall Workshop. See <https://www.ocra-oregon.org/resources/distinguished-member-awards/> for more information.



2022 Award Recipients:

Michele Henson Memorial Scholarship Award: **Kerrie Brady, Geeta Kumar, Sara Lee**

April Fritz Memorial Scholarship Award: **Not awarded for 2022**

New CTR Recognition Award: **Connie Howard, Geeta Kumar, Sara Lee**

OCRA Distinguished Member Award: **Nicole Davis, CTR, PeaceHealth**

Whatcha upto?



Ever wonder how our retired comrades are faring in the world? Martha Curl did, so she reached out and asked. Here are some words from a few of our OCRA's retirees:



Elly Hayes, retired from Legacy:

Hi, greetings from Hawaii, not really, I'm here in sunny Milwaukie. Since retiring, I still haven't cleaned out my closet or organized the kitchen. I have been quilting and made all the family a quilt. That's, 5 grandkids, 3 adult bonus grandkids and one bonus great grand baby. They keep things lively and happy. I still love taking care of my roses and attending the rose show. My 20-year-old grandson asked me to show him how to cook, so we've been cooking once a week. I love that. I go to the gym 3-4 times a week for yoga and haven't broken anything yet. Bob still loves to go fishing, I hate it but go to keep him happy, I'd rather be shopping. Last year I caught a huge salmon and the fish checker (a lovely woman) looked at the fish and said ...I like your shoes (pink Skechers). Now that's what it's all about. That's it for me. Retirement is great, don't worry about it.

Gail Coleman, retired from Legacy:

Gee, I don't know what to say! Retirement is the best. I retired in 2009 so have done a lot since then, including traveling mostly in Europe. The best part is having the time to participate in our grandchildren's lives.

Donna Gilbo, retired from Legacy:


Ted and I have done some traveling. Probably my favorite was snorkeling the Great Barrier Reef. Had a bout of breast cancer in 2019; and now disease free. We still enjoy the beach, class unions, lunch with friends, doing nothing. Our golden retriever/ lab mix keeps us moving with daily walks.

Janice McDaniel, retired from Providence:

Greetings from Camarillo, California, where I am currently strapped into my patio chair so the Santa Ana winds don't carry me away! Actually, if you have never experienced them, they're pretty amazing, unless they spark fires then it's no bueno. I love the sunrises and sunsets here and am blessed that I get to enjoy both from my home. I am keeping busy with stretch classes 5x a week and a Tai Chi class, both to keep these old bones going. Boo Boo and I enjoy frequent walks, mainly I enjoy the walks while he just peemails every bush or tree. It is nice being so close to my daughter, Amy, too. Retirement life is great!

Deborah Towell, retired from OSCAR:

Greetings from retirement! I've been keeping myself busy with some traveling. In the first 6 months was able to spend some time in Alaska, Sunriver, Cabo San Lucas and ended 2022 visiting my Dad in Miami Beach. Life is good. Started doing water aerobics and water yoga which keeps me busy 4-5 days a week. My "job" right now is to improve my health and hopefully repair this aged (how did that happen?) abused body. 😊. I still haven't even touched my household "to do" list. I don't miss the work but what I do miss is all of you!!! That camaraderie and friendship developed over the years is irreplaceable! Hope the 2023 new year is good to you!



Shelley Lindsey will be welcoming Grandbaby #4 in July 2023. Her son, Jordan, and his wife, Abigail, announced recently that Edie Ruth will be big sister to Owen Tyler Lindsey.

OCRA wants to know what you have been up to. Babies, grandbabies, great-grandbabies? Big birthdays, anniversaries? Retirement? Send it to your Newsletter Editor today!

And now... A WORD FROM OSCAR



Greetings and Happy New Year from OSCaR!

As you all know, OSCaR has gone through a tremendous amount of change in 2022 and there is more coming in 2023 as we transition to OHSU management. I'm sure many of you have loads of questions. We are working on creating a FAQ file regarding the transition to answer some of these questions.

The biggest question I get asked is if OSCaR is part of OHSU registry. The answer is no. OHSU has its own registry department. OSCaR is and will continue to be a separate department. OHSU registry has to go through the same channels as the rest of the state when it comes to OSCaR.

A few updates:

- OSCaR successfully completed Call for Data in 2022. Thank you everyone who reported their 2020 cases on time so we could meet the deadline. This year, we are focusing on completeness of 2021 cases.
- We are looking to hire Quality Assurance Lead at OSCaR soon. Once the position is open, I will send out an email via listserv.
- Once we fill in the QA Lead position we will relaunch the bi-monthly Coalition meetings and more educational opportunities.
- OSCaR will participate and support the OCRA 2023 Fall Workshop.

Thank you so much for your patience and support as we adjust to the new changes.

~Melania



Oregon Cancer Registrar's Association

Webmaster, Ron Lamie, is currently underway developing our new and improved OCRA website. If you cannot find what you are looking for, please contact any member of the Executive Committee for assistance.



Editor Comments: *It is official. I am your new Newsletter Editor. Until when? I cannot say. I am not experienced at this, so if you have any comments or suggestions for style or content always feel free to contact me. This is our newsletter, so your input is welcomed. Only you can help me make it better! Please submit articles at least one week prior to the planned release date. Planned release dates for 2023 are as follows: 1st quarter 2/1/23; 2nd quarter 5/1/23; third quarter 8/1/23; 4th quarter 11/1/23.*

~ Shelley Lindsey