

OCRA Newsletter



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President's Message

Greetings . I hope this message finds everybody happy, healthy, and out doing fun things. Summer is nearly over and the start of school looms for many. The OCRA EC has had a busy summer planning and organizing our August workshop in Springfield. A big thank you to all who participated to make it a success. We had a small group of 28 participants (26 members).

The in-person meeting was well received and who could deny the joy of seeing each other again? It truly was a program "by registrars for registrars". No pretty surgical explorations photos, but great information with a focus on quality and accuracy for sure. We welcomed new CTR's and new members, honored Dr. Williamson with a Lifetime Honorary Member Award, presented Nicole Davis with the 2022 DMA, and sold over \$400.00 in raffle tickets for various baskets, flowers, gift cards, table pieces and candy-filled coffee mugs. Not to mention the two free memberships and two free 2023 OCRA workshop gift certificates that all attendees were eligible to win. The Welcome Committee presented a video of 'OCRA Through the Years' that highlighted much of our history, those who retired, and those we have lost. It was a full day.

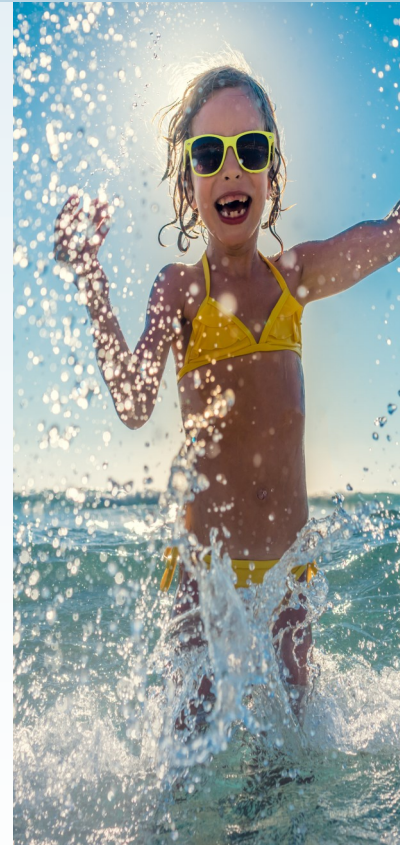
Congratulations to our new 2023 EC. You will be in good hands with Bonnie Kubli leading OCRA as your new President, Rebecca Berwager as your new Treasurer and Marsha Beal serving as your 2023 Secretary. Last but not least, Laura Wallace is your President-elect and learning the ropes for her 2024 debut as OCRA President. We were successful in securing committee positions for 2023 as well. A BIG thank you to all who signed up for the coming year.

We continue to provide member spotlights in this issue. Just remember, your time will come. We will continue to spotlight members until we have made it around to all. After all members have been represented, we will have a standard process of providing a spotlight for any new member as they join OCRA.

Please save the date for our ZOOM business meeting currently scheduled for November 2nd, 2022. We have some necessary By-laws changes to go over, as well as the financials, so please plan to attend. Your input is important and all votes count. Invitations are coming soon.

Thank you.

Shelley Lindsey, OCRA President 2022



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Fall newsletter submission? Email
Shannon Kearbey at
htech72@gmail.com



Martha Curl presents Ted Williamson with the Lifetime Honorary Member Award.

Ted Williamson, MD, CTR, Receives the OCRA Lifetime Honorary Member Award

Dr. Williamson, Founder, former President, and Medical Director of Onco, Inc., had an opportunity to participate as a consultant in the development of a new radiation therapy facility in 1970 which led to an appreciation for the cancer-fighting power of radiation and his first experience developing a computer-based cancer registry. A career-changing decision steered him to an MD at the University of Miami in 1975. Returning to the West Coast, he completed his residency in radiation oncology at the University Hospital in Seattle. His group practice in radiation oncology allowed time to pursue research and the development of interests, first in radiation treatment planning and then, since 1986, exclusively in cancer registry and related software applications. In addition to his decades of registry work for Onco Inc., Dr. Williamson has been on the staff of Salem Hospital for 40 years and has been a member of the Oregon State Cancer Registry Advisory Board since it was founded. He earned his CTR credential in 1994. Dr. Williamson has remained committed to the Cancer Registry field, fellow CTR's, and OCRA. OCRA presented him with the Lifetime Honorary Member Award on August 12,

Nicole Davis, CTR, PeaceHealth, Received OCRA 2022 Distinguished Member Award

Nomination: Nicole Davis, CTR for the 2022 Distinguished member award.

Nicole is probably one of the most enthusiastic people I know. From the time she joined OCRA, I can always remember her jumping in and helping out at conferences. She is one of those people who just knows where help is needed and is not shy about stepping up. Nicole is always thinking up ways to share her knowledge whether it be through the OCRA newsletter, to her PeaceHealth professionals, or offering to speak on a topic she is passionate about. It has been enjoyable watching her blossom and grow within the cancer registry profession. For the past several years, Nicole has served as our OCRA Secretary. She graciously volunteered to roll over her position for an additional two years when OCRA recently bottomed-out on volunteers. She constantly brings fresh ideas to the EC table. Thank you for your hard work and continued involvement in OCRA.

Michele Henson Memorial Scholarship Fund

In October 2001, we lost a great registrar to lung cancer. OCRA set up a Memorial Fund for her and in 2002 began offering the Michele Henson Memorial Scholarship to help cover the cost of the CTR exam.

This year we are proud to award three OCRA Members with this scholarship.

Congratulations to:

Kerrie Brady, CTR 2021

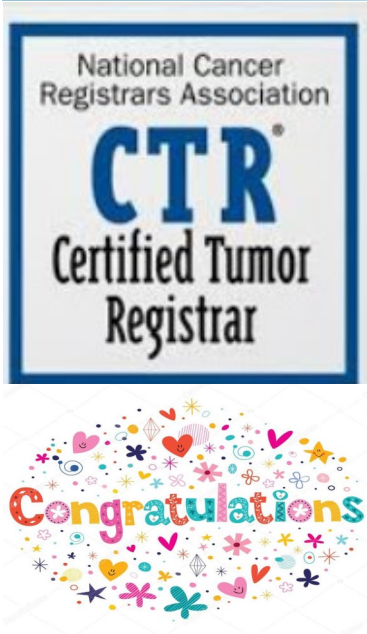
Geeta Kumar, CTR 2022

Sara Lee, CTR 2022

You can read more about Michele Henson on the OCRA website at

<https://www.ocra-oregon.org/resources/michele-henson-memorial-scholarship-fund/>





New CTR's

It is no easy feat these days, not that it was any easier previously, to sit for the CTR exam. STM, TNM, STORE, CoC Standards, statistics and whatever else you had to learn to get there, the nerves seem to find you one way or another. Whether test taking isn't your strong suit, knowing you are racing against the clock, or all of a sudden everything you knew you find your self second guessing only to be followed by the long awaited results.

Well, you did it!!! Congratulations to

OCRA's newest CTR's.

The following individuals sat for the CTR exam first half of 2022.

Geeta Kumar, OHSU

Sara Lee, OSCaR/OHSU

Alex Shekhovtsev, Kaiser

"Life's problems wouldn't be called "hurdles" if there wasn't a way to get over them." — Author Unknown

Janice McDaniel Retires!

Janice McDaniel, CTR, from Providence Health and Services Oregon officially retired on August 31, 2022. We will miss her.

Janice's interest in the Cancer Registry field began while working in research at St. Charles Regional Medical Center in Bend, Oregon. At the time she shared an office with the Cancer Registry, and one day decided that being a CTR sounded interesting and intricate. She then enrolled in the SBCC CIM Program and attained her CTR in 2012. Janice later joined the Providence Health and Services Oregon registry in 2015.



Deborah Towell Retires!

After 25 years of working for the Oregon State Cancer Registry (OSCAR) Deb has retired. With her early start in research, Deb transitioned to OSCAR in 1997 and began her CTR journey in 1998. She has been a big part of OCRA during these past 25 years and has served as President, Secretary, Nominating Committee, and the By-laws Committee Chair for the past 150 years, okay maybe 12, but I am sure she feels like it's been 150.

If you are wondering whatever Deb will do with her time now that work is behind her, I am certain you will find her hanging out with Zoe, her granddaughter, or enjoying one of her many outdoor hobbies, such as gardening and camping. She was recently spotted in Sunriver with a pack of wild ladies and promises to return from time to time.

Congratulations Deb! You will certainly be missed.



Member Spotlight

Martha Curl, CTR

Somewhere out there is an angel disguised as a Cancer Registry advocate responsible for the random accidental entrance into the world of cancer registries. For many of us, this is true, and Martha is no exception, for she, too, entered this profession in quite the same fashion. After serving in the US Army, Martha applied for a position where she did not quite meet the qualifications. The manager, a fellow Veteran, told her about a temporary job in the registry. The 31 years of history follow.

Martha received her CTR in 1995. She belongs to both NCRA since 1996, and OCRA since 1993. She has held many positions within OCRA, in fact, she has served on every committee at some point and has the longest chain of EC hanging plaques than anybody.



Martha has been employed by Providence Health and Services since 1999 and has been working remotely since 2006. She recently returned back to her follow up roots and oversees all of the follow up requirements for the Oregon facilities.

Volunteering is Martha's passion. She remains active in many charities relating to both cancer and Veteran services. These

include, but certainly are not limited to, Relay for Life, Ronald McDonald House, VFW & Ladies Auxiliary, Elks, Candlelighters, and Cascadian Bowmen.

Martha's son, Trent, is a cancer survivor for 15 years. He was diagnosed in 2008 with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Following his treatment, they did not figure he would be able to have children, but low and behold now have two beautiful grandsons from Trent, Alex and Sage, and another grandson, Brantlee, from daughter, Brittini. These adorable boys, in addition to two very close great-nephews, keep Martha and Gary very busy.

When she is not volunteering or spending time with five little boys, Martha enjoys fundraising for various charities. If you were to look up the word "volunteerism" in the Webster's Dictionary, I am quite certain Martha Curl would be listed.

Thank you, Martha, for your dedication to OCRA and beyond! We appreciate you.



Martha during Thelma & Louise themed staff meeting June 2022

Nicole Davis, CTR

Nicole's CTR journey started in healthcare as a CNA. Not really excited with the entry level position into patient care, she transitioned to being a ward clerk. With EPIC on the horizon and the knowledge of these clerk positions being phased out, fate stepped in. In 2017, Nicole was asked to fill in and run the hospital's tumor board one day. This was fun! She became the Tumor Board Coordinator while going through AHIMA and sat for her CTR exam in 2019.

PeaceHealth has been Nicole's career home as a CTR. She has been a member of OCRA since 2018 and NCRA since 2019. She jumped right into volunteering for OCRA as the OCRA Secretary from 2020 to present. Who would have known it would be a three-year term! Nicole was the sole member on the Education Committee in 2022. She was this year's recipient of OCRA's Distinguished Member Award.

While work consumes the majority of her day, Nicole enjoys traveling, even if it is just a quick trip to the beach. She loves fishing and crabbing. She is also quite the canner! In 2019, Nicole went to Iceland, "the trip of a lifetime". Earlier this year, Silverwood Water Park in Idaho was her destination which she describes as amazing and encourages others to check it out. With her husband's 50th approaching in 2023, Nicole is planning to surprise him with a trip to either Ireland, Key West or possibly a cruise. If you want to keep it a surprise do not let him read this newsletter!

Thank you, Nicole, for your enthusiasm and willingness to help in any capacity.



Nicole in Iceland 2019

Member Spotlight continued...

Bonnie Kubli, CTR

Bonnie had an early start in healthcare working for two local internists. A physician she knew told her about a position in the Registry at Bay Area Hospital and suggested she apply. She started working at Bay Area Hospital in 1990. She fulfilled the education requirements and worked fulltime for two years before sitting for and passing the CTR exam in 1992.

Bonnie worked at Bay Area Hospital for 25 years. She left for an opportunity to work remotely for St. Charles Health System for 5 additional years before transitioning to part-time with OHSU when her husband, Howard, sort of retired. She loves her 20 hours a week and the people she works with.

Bonnie has been a member of OCRA and NCRA since 1990 and as held several positions, including Secretary and President. She was the

newsletter editor and has served on many OCRA Committees. Bonnie served on NCRA's Nominating Committee several years ago as well. Bonnie received the OCRA DMA in 2016.

If you have ever met Bonnie at a conference, you will also have had the pleasure of meeting Howard, her husband, who she introduces as



Bonnie with friend and colleague, Shelley Lindsey

her best friend. The two of them are a joy to be around. Bonnie enjoys traveling, gardening, and crafting. Most of all, she enjoys her family. Last year, Great Grandma was added to her title. Bonnie is active with her church in the Education Department, and she helps care for her aging parents. Per Bonnie, Life is good!

Thank you, Bonnie, for all you do! You are truly a gem!



Great Grandma Bonnie and Isla Rose

Shelley Lindsey, CTR

Shelley started her career in the cancer registry literally by accident. While fulfilling her nursing prerequisites and working as a CNA, a neck injury in 1987 changed her path and resulted in a desk job as a Follow-up Clerk at St. John's Hospital in Oxnard, California. She attended the Tumor Registrars Training Program offered through USC in 1988 and shortly thereafter was hired by Sue Watkins, Director of Region 4 in California, as a Field Abstractor for Ventura County. Shelley sat for her CTR in 1990. The unexpected news of the arrival of baby Alesha (soon-to-be abstractor, now known as Alesha Easley), changed her course yet again to a private contractor position. Wanting more out of her career once her children were in school, Shelley transitioned to coordinator and management roles for which she continues today.

Shelley has been employed by Providence Health and Services Oregon since March 2013 where she oversees abstracting, training and QA practices. Quality abstraction of cancer data continues to be her professional priority.

An active member of NCRA since 1990, CCRA from 1990 to 2002, and OCRA since relocating to Oregon in 2002, Shelley has served or participated in state associations only. She was the CCRA Program Chair in 1991 while living in California. In Oregon, Shelley has served on the Audit Committee and Welcome Committee. She has also served as OCRA President in 2008, 2022 and 2023. Shelley received the OCRA DMA in 2021.

Shelley has two children, daughter Alesha Easley, and son Jordan Lindsey. She also has three grandchildren, Rowdy (8), Ryatt (6), and Edie (18 mos). She will tell you that being a grandparent is the reward of parenthood! There is nothing better than spending time with the littles. Shelley lives with other half, Jeff Mason, in Sunriver. Together they enjoy cooking, crabbing, traveling, biking, hiking, paddle boarding, kayaking, camping, wakeboarding, and snorkeling. Shelley also enjoys various art projects when time allows.

OCRA thanks you for your participation, Shelley!



Member Spotlight continued...

Lori Lucente, BS, CTR

Lori was another victim of accidental entrance into the Cancer Registry field. She moved to Hawaii after college to learn scuba diving and enjoy warm weather. One of her college friends happened to be working for the Hawaii Central Cancer Registry and encouraged Lori to apply for a Field Abstractor position. Boom! From that point, Lori worked for HCCR followed by joining the Queen's Medical Center Cancer Registry team before taking her CTR exam in 1997.

Lori currently serves as the Clinical Registrar Manager for Providence Health and Services Oregon Cancer Registry where she manages a staff of 15. She has been with Providence since 2000. She has been a member of HTRA from 1991 to 2000 where she served as Secretary and on various committees. She joined NCRA in 1997 and OCRA in 2000. She has served OCRA as Treasurer and a Nominating Committee member, as well as Finance Committee and Education Committee.

Lori currently has quite the busy schedule with the responsibilities that life brings. She and husband, John, currently care for both of their mothers in their home. Daughters, Emily (22) will complete her Masters in November, and Sarah (19) is a sophomore in college. Both girls attend Pepperdine University in Malibu, California. Although free time is often few and far between, Lori and John like to get away for the occasional hike.

Manager, mentor, friend. OCRA appreciates you, Lori!



Lori enjoying the outdoors!

Odds and Ends

This site shows all the hospices in Oregon and has search capabilities. Contact martha.curl@providence.org if you have any questions.

Oregon Hospice & Palliation
<https://oregonhospice.org/>

Some Winners from August 12, 2022 Raffle

Alesha Easley — Providence Basket
Jennifer Johnson — OCRA Fall Workshop Voucher
Janice Wheeler — OCRA Fall Workshop Voucher
Linda Derksen — Providence Gift Card
Martha Curl — Mum Flower Basket
Martha Curl — OCRA Membership Voucher
Melania Tolan-Hudson — OCRA Membership Voucher
Melania Tolan-Hudson — Asante basket
Shelley Lindsey — PeaceHealth Basket

There were more winners, apologies if your information was not received prior to publishing.

Your 2023 OCRA Executive Committee is:

President 2023—Bonnie Kubli
Treasurer 2023-2024—Rebecca Berwager
Secretary 2023—Marsha Beal
President-Elect 2024—Laura Wallace
Past President—Shelley Lindsey

Nominating Committee 2023:

Claudia Cooksie
Geeta Kumar
Janice Wheeler
Mary Woods

“OCRA Thorough the Years” is available for your viewing pleasure at:

<https://youtu.be/pteYo6nDh-U>

If you haven't done so, check it out. Thank you Alesha Easley for compiling the photo album pictures into such an unforgettable video.

Scenes from the Workshop “Cancer Registrars Lighting the Way”



Shelley Lindsey discusses the importance of text clarity



Martha Curl shows the impact of Standard 6.5 on follow-up percentages

Excellent job putting together a workshop by registrars for registrars. Great information.



Ron Lamie inspires us to become mentors through NCRA

Thank you for the wonderful workshop!!!



Nicole Davis and what she does with all her data



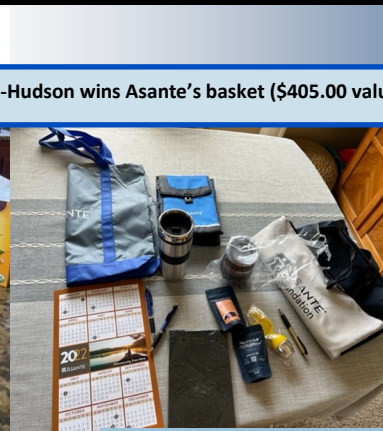
Raffles—Bonnie Kubli draws the winning tickets



Workshop attendees coming out of the women's restroom



Melania Tolan-Hudson wins Asante's basket (\$405.00 value)



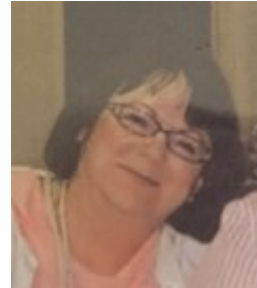
Amazing conference – I actually loved it being a small group. Presentations were fantastic.



It is with great sadness.....

Carolyn Durham passed away on August 27th, 2022. She worked at Providence Milwaukie Hospital, as well as Providence St. Vincent doing follow-up. She retired several years ago. She was described as being very sweet and considered a dear friend to many. Rest in peace.

Jill Marie Edelman passed away on April 25th, 2022, at her home in Lebanon, Oregon. Jill was an OCRA Member and served on several committees. Always



smiling and known for her loving nature, Jill will be deeply missed. Rest in peace.

"If I had a flower for every time I thought of you...I could walk through my garden forever." ~ Alfred Tennyson



Editor Comments:

As life often throws that curveball from time to time, I was asked to cover the newsletter for Shannon Kearbey this edition. I am not sure who threw the curveball to who, but I hope to have captured the heart of OCRA in such short notice. I will be stepping up as the OCRA Newsletter Editor for 2023. I appreciate Shannon for all her past editions and look forward to her final edition for the 2022 calendar year.

~ Shelley Lindsey