



President's Message ***August 2011***



Hello everyone! I am so excited about our Association, our members and the challenges we are facing in the HIM field! This year we are going to focus on encouraging new members to join us and increasing the number of volunteers who help us with various projects. If you have the desire, we would love to have your assistance! If you are interested in serving on a Committee or running for Office, please contact Sharon Boggio (sharon_boggio@bshsi.org) or myself (tsbrown@carilionclinic.org) and we would be happy to help you find that perfect fit!

In July I was fortunate enough to attend the Summer Team Talks and Leadership Conference at Chicago with Lisa Smith (President-Elect) and Gloria Litton (Coding Roundtable Coordinator). I had a lot of fun with both of these ladies and Lisa most definitely helped me get my exercise on our nightly "walks". Both Lisa and Gloria will be updating us with their thoughts from the meetings later in this newsletter. For myself, I found it to be a great way to bond with members of our Association as well as representatives from the other States. It was the perfect time to bounce ideas off each other and see how other State Associations do things.

In August the VHIMA Board will be meeting in Charlottesville (thanks to Loren Thierren!) for our Strategic

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Planning Session. We will provide you with more information after that meeting so you can be aware of where we feel we should focus our attention for the current term.

As you know, the upcoming AHIMA Annual Convention will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah from Oct 1-Oct 6, 2011. I hope to have the opportunity to chat with you if you are able to attend that convention. At this time, there are several issues up for discussion and vote at the Business meeting and myself (and our delegates) would love to get your input before we vote! Please visit the VHIMA website (www.vhima.org) and review the items under the "National Convention Business Meeting" section. Remember, these are the most recent DRAFTS of this issues and further revisions may be made before the convention. After you have reviewed these items, please go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/X9XHXF5> and complete a quick, 4 question survey. The link to the survey is also on the website for your convenience. We look forward to having **your** input!

Lastly – save the date for our Annual Convention – April 18-19, 2012 in Richmond, Virginia. We will be meeting at the Richmond Hotel & Spa at Short Pump and hope to see YOU there!

Coding Roundtable News



VHIMA Coding Roundtables Are Coming To The Web!!!

The **VHIMA Board has signed a contract for webinar services** for the upcoming year. Many of the members have expressed the need for web-based education due to time away from work and cost to the HIM professional. The first ICD-10 webinar is planned to be held on October, 2011. Watch the website and newsletter for details, costs, and a schedule for upcoming webinars.

Calling All Educators!!!

If you are interested and have experience in teaching at the community college at your facility or in another venue, please contact Gloria Litton at (540) 741-1650 to discuss the details. Instructors will be paid \$250 for leading each 2 hour session.



AHIMA ICD-10 Training Academy Comes to Virginia Beach

On June 6-8th, HIM professionals from across the country, including Alaska, descended on Virginia Beach to attend 3 days of intense training in ICD-10 CM and PCS. Several Virginia members were present for the academy but the bulk of the attendees were from other states. The attendees ranged from a variety of healthcare venues including HIM Directors, coding managers, educators, QIO reviewers, and physician office practices.

The training was intense and the days were full. It was quite overwhelming at the time but was well worth the time and cost. Attendees are eligible to take the trainer certification exam in the next few months following the academy. HIM professionals who have already taken the test have report the test taking from 8-14 hours.

A list of certified trainers is available on the AHIMA website.

<http://www.ahima.org/icd10/trainers.aspx>

Coding Roundtable News - Con't.

AHIMA Summer Team Talks in Chicago

Teresa Brown, Lisa Smith, and Gloria Litton attended the AHIMA Summer Team Talks in Chicago on July 15-17th. Many of the break-out meetings during this meeting were centered around ICD-10 education being provided through AHIMA and the state component associations. Representatives from the coding roundtables from most of the states were present and freely shared ideas on what they were doing in their own states to provide coding roundtable education including a focus on ICD-10 education. Some of the ideas shared during this meeting included:

- Development by the CSA of a 20 month plan for ICD-10 training
- Trainers sent by the CSA to the AHIMA ICD-10 Training Academy
- Online assessments developed and provided (at a fee) online for anatomy and physiology and medical terminology
- Roundtable trainers were sent to all regional meetings in the state to provide the same training sessions
- Discussions of ICD-10 at facility quarterly physician's meetings
- Laminated tools for root operations, devices, etc.
- Sessions limited to 2 hours each
- Coding actually operative note examples
- CSA trainers take a specific body system to develop an education program and host the webinar
- Partner with local colleges for instructors for A&P and medical terminology
- Saturday and evening sessions
- Pay trainers to lead training sessions
- Trainer bios on CSA website

Lots of ideas and information were shared during this meeting. Much of this information has been discussed with the board and will be used to assist VHIMA in developing the ICD-10 education plan for VHIMA over the next 2 years.

Overview of the AHIMA Summer Team Talks Held in Chicago Illinois

July 15 -17, 2011

By Lisa Smith

AHIMA held the annual Summer Team Talks this year on July 15-17. This was my first time going to the Summer Team Talks, as president –elect. This was actually my first time in Chicago and I had a great time in Chicago and at the Team Talks meeting President’s, President-elects, and Educators from other states. I was there with Teresa Brown – President and Gloria Litton – Coding Roundtable Coordinator. We heard the updates from AHIMA and the plans that they have for this year. AHIMA currently has over 61,000 members. They plan to be completely transparent and to have a world class governance.

The 2011 Key Strategic Initiatives are:

- 1) Branding/Recognition/Communication
- 2) Be more responsive to market agility.
- 3) Research and Leadership Institute
- 4) Establish Effective Governance
- 5) Enhance Education Programs.

In discussing some of the key initiatives, for Branding/Recognition/Communication, AHIMA wants to be more recognized in the Healthcare Industry, as well as with the government. They want more people to know who AHIMA is and us as members. Enhance Education Programs, AHIMA wants to Advance their Vision through 2016. Exploit opportunities with Health Information Technology initiatives. Explore innovative partnerships with academics and others to provide formal and informal education programs in targeted capabilities and skills.

Overview of the AHIMA Summer Team Talks Con't.

The ICD-10 Update gave us some of AHIMA's goals. Below are 4 of the goals:

- 1: Lead the Industry in ICD-10-CM/PCS education
- 2: Enable successful ICD-10 Implementation
- 3: Improve the quality of healthcare data
- 4: Build AHIMA's reputation and resources.

AHIMA has an integrated approach for these goals, in having a coding leadership approach, making sure each state is ready with a point person. Having a positive market position in coding education and certification. Developing existing relationships, and ensure no changes to the timeline are made. AHIMA also approved a coding exam to be ICD-10 compliant by March 2013.

All in all the weekend was very helpful in not only learning that other states are going through the same struggles that Virginia is such as, membership (getting new members and retaining members), having successful annual conventions, and being able to help our members in their educations. I look forward to going back to Chicago in 2012 for next year's Summer Team Talks and being able to describe how successful we were in Virginia this year.





Upcoming Meetings:

LOCAL CONFERENCES

Southwest VHIMA:

Fall conference on 10/28/11

Best Western Hotel in Radford, Virginia

More information will be available as soon as speakers/times have been finalized. Please contact Kristin Williamson (klwilliamson@carilionclinic.org) for more information.



Tidewater VHIMA:

Annual Education and Business Meeting on 11/4/11

Advanced Technology Center on the Virginia Beach Campus of Tidewater Community College in Virginia Beach, VA.

Please contact Tina Stevens (tina.stevens@norfolk.gov)



News from the SWVHIMA Spring Conference



The SWVHIMA Spring Conference took place on **June 17th in Roanoke**. We had great line up of speakers and a variety of interesting topics. The morning session included Accreditation Readiness, Biomedical Ethics, Wound Care and Recovery Audit Contractors Update. There was a break out session for lunch on your own in beautiful downtown Roanoke. The afternoon session was a Coding Roundtable hosted by Ruth Ellen Ayers, Louise Nunn, Kathy King and members of their coding team. Attendees could earn up to 6 CEU's for both sessions of the conference.

During the conference the new officers for the next year were inducted by Cindy Phelps. Kristin Williamson will serve as President, Debbie Boyer as Vice-President, Dorinda Wray as Treasurer, and Angie Alford as Secretary.

The SWVHIMA Fall Conference will tentatively take place in mid-November. We would like to expand our membership so if you or someone you know is interested in joining SWVHIMA, please contact **Kristin Williamson** at **klwilliamson@carilionclinic.org** or **540/981-7969**.

**VHIMA OFFICERS
2011-2012**

President Delegate	Teresa Brown, RHIT
President Elect Delegate	Lisa L. Smith, MBA, CCS
Past President Delegate*	Cindy Phelps, RHIA
Vice President	Terry J. Santana-Johnson, RHIT, CCS, CCS-P
Secretary	Louise Nunn, CCS, Certified ICD10 Trainer
Treasurer	Allison F. Viola, RHIA, MBA
First Year Delegate	Patty L. Campola, RHIA
Second Year Delegate	Teri Jones, RHIT, CCS, CCS-P
Elected Director	Lauri L. Perry, RHIA
AHIMA Nominating Committee	Margaret S. Bass, RHIT, CCS

*Arnita Perry, RHIA, MA, will serve as Delegate for Cindy Phelps. RHIA
AHIMA 2011 Convention, Utah

2011-2012 VHIMA Committees at Work

Committee	E-mail Address
NOMINATING COMMITTEE	
Sharon Boggio, Chair	sharon_boggio@bshsi.org
Sandra Allen	
Patty Cranford	pcranford@farleycenter.com
Amanda Jennings	amanda.jennings@chesapeakeregional.com
Kim Spencer	kim@emiimaging.com
SCHOLARSHIP/EDUCATION	
Kristin Williamson	klwilliamson@carilionclinic.org
CEC	
Arnita Perry, Chair	arnita.perry@lpnt.net
Cindy Phelps	cmphelps@carilionclinic.org
MEMBERSHIP	
Karen Phipps	karen.phipps.7162@rhcc.com
VENDOR	
Teri Jones, Chair	terter62@comcast.net
Consovelia (Connie) Harris	harris25@cox.net
Sheila Scott	sheila.scott@wellmont.org
PROGRAM	
Christina Upton, Chair	cupton@odu.edu
Patty Campola	patty.campola@mwhc.com
Terrie Cooper	terrie.cooper@va.gov
Karen Rice	karen.rice@healthsouth.com
PUBLIC RELATIONS/NEWSLETTER	
Kim Spencer, Chair	kim@emiimaging.com
Renee Baucom	renee.baucom@va.gov
ARRANGEMENTS	
Loren Thierren, Chair	lew3c@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu
Anita W. Woodley	anita.white.woodley@dbhds.virginia.gov
REGISTRATION	
Teresa Harris, Chair	teresa_harris@bshsi.org
Renee Baucom	renee.baucom@va.gov
Karen Cooper	karen_cooper@bshsi.org
SILENT AUCTION	
Kim Spencer, Chair	kim@emiimaging.com
Kristin Williamson	klwilliamson@carilionclinic.org
Mattie Wilson	mwilson@nvcc.edu



AHIMA
Convention
& Exhibit

2011 SALT
LAKE
CITY

**Reaching New Heights
in Health Information**

**JOIN US FOR THE 83RD
AHIMA CONVENTION & EXHIBIT**

OCTOBER 1-6, 2011
EXHIBITS OCTOBER 2-5, 2011
Salt Palace Convention Center
Salt Lake City, UT

The graphic features a white clipboard on the left with a silver clip at the top. The clipboard has a photo of Salt Lake City with mountains in the background. To the right of the clipboard is a larger, similar photo of Salt Lake City. The text is overlaid on these images.

Don't forget to register for the AHIMA
National Convention in Salt Lake City, UT
October 1—6, 2011

DON'T FORGET TO VISIT THE AHIMA WEBSITE

AHIMA News & Alerts

- AHIMA Comments on Proposed Rule for Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule 2012 (August 31, 2011)
- CMS Publishes Final Rule SNF PPS (August 16, 2011)
- **CMS Publishes Final Rule IRF-PPS (August 16, 2011)**
- AHIMA Comments on Proposed Rule for Availability of Medicare Data (August 16, 2011)
- CMS Issues Home Health Proposed Rule (July 12, 2011)
- HHS Publishes Semiannual Regulatory Agenda (July 11, 2011)
- CMS Proposes MU Attestation for 2012 (July 8, 2011)
- CMS Publishes Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule (July 6, 2011)
- CMS Publishes OPPI Proposed Rule (July 6, 2011)
- CMS Publishes Interim Final Rule on Adoption of Operating Rules (June 30, 2011)
- Meaningful Use Work Group Recommends Stage 2 Delay for Early Attestation (June 9, 2011)
- Availability of Medicare Data for Performance Measure (June 9, 2011)

Comments and Analyses

AHIMA Comments on Proposed Rule for Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule 2012 (August 31, 2011)

- AHIMA Comments on Proposed Rule for Availability of Medicare Data (August 16, 2011)
- AHIMA Comments on HIPAA Privacy Rule Accounting of Disclosures (July 26, 2011)
- AHIMA Analysis of the NPRM HITECH Accounting of Disclosures (July 8, 2011)
- AHIMA Comments on IRF Proposed Rule (June 21, 2011)
- AHIMA Testimony on ICD-10 to NCVHS (June 17, 2011)
- AHIMA Comments on FY2012 Hospital Inpatient PPS Proposed Rule (June 17, 2011)
- AHIMA Comments on Accountable Care Organizations NPRM (June 2, 2011)
- Summary of March '11 ICD-9-CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meeting (May 17, 2011)
- AHIMA Comments to HIT Policy Tiger Team for Privacy and Security (May 11, 2011)
- AHIMA Comments on ONC Federal Health Information Technology Strategic Plan to ONC and HHS (May 2, 2011)
- AHIMA Comments on NQF eMeasure Format Review (April 6, 2011)

<http://www.ahima.org/advocacy/default.aspx>

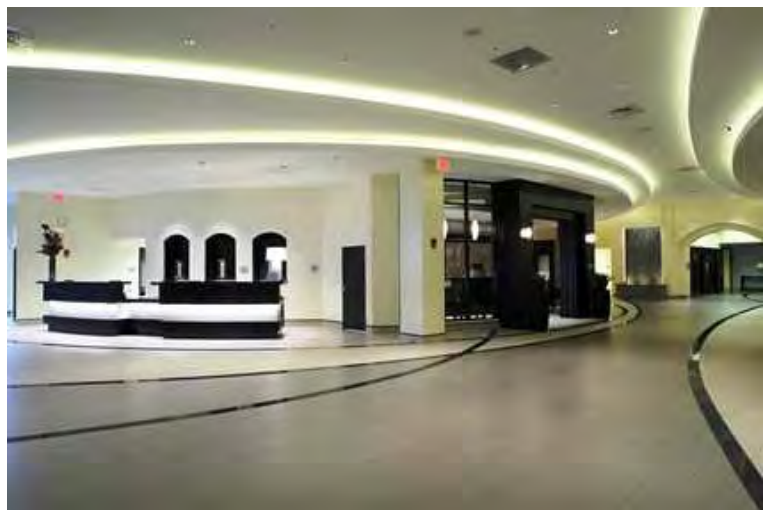
Save the date.

VHIMA Annual Convention is scheduled for April 18th & 19th, 2012

Location: Richmond Hotel & Spa Shortpump (Hilton)



The new location for the VHIMA Annual meeting offers all the amenities we love, while complimenting our real need for learning.



Well-sized meeting rooms and exquisite are expected to add to the learning experience at VHIMA.



Labor Day, 2011



Did you know...

Labor Day: How it Came About; What it Means:

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

<http://www.dol.gov/opa/aboutdol/laborday.htm>



Whether on the East coast or borders to our West,
Be sure to enjoy the day to your very best.
The days are shorter, the nights are colder.
The change of seasons tell us we are another year older.

Scholarships:



Attention Students!

The deadline for VHIMA scholarship applications is **March 15, 2012** so there is plenty of time to apply! Please visit the scholarship link on the VHIMA web for more information.

Mail your application and required documents to:

Kristin Williamson, RHIT

Carilion Clinic

P.O. Box 13367

Roanoke, VA 24033-3367

Work: (540) 981-7969

Email: klwilliamson@carilionclinic.org

Please contact Kristin Williamson for any questions @ 540-981-7969.

“This is a wonderful and exceptional gift from VHIMA, and I encourage all students to apply, whether taking classes on-site, or on-line”

Kim Spencer, VHIMA Scholarship recipient 2011 - Stephens College pursuing on-line Bachelor Degree in Health Information Administration (on-line)



Please join us in this FLY THE FLAG campaign and PLEASE forward this email to your friends and family asking them to also forward it. We have less than 4 weeks and counting to get the word out all across this great land and into every community in the United States of America.

If you forward this email to at least 11 people and each of those people do the same ... you get the idea.

THE PROGRAM:

On Sunday, September 11th, 2011, an American flag should be displayed outside every home, apartment, office, and store in the United States. Every individual should make it their duty to display an American flag on this tenth anniversary of one our country's worst tragedies. We do this in honor of those who lost their lives on 9/11, their families, friends and loved ones who continue to endure the pain, and those who today are fighting at home and abroad to preserve our cherished freedoms.

In the days, weeks and months following 9/11, our country was bathed in American flags as citizens mourned the incredible losses and stood shoulder-to-shoulder against terrorism. Sadly, those flags have all but disappeared. Our patriotism pulled us through some tough times and it shouldn't take another attack to galvanize us in solidarity. Our American Flag is the fabric of our country and together we can prevail over terrorism of all kinds

Action Plan:

So, here's what we need you to do ...

Fly an American flag of any size on 9/11. Honestly, Americans should fly the flag year-round, but if you don't, then at least make it a priority on this day.

Thank you for your participation.

God Bless You and God Bless America!



In Loving Memory:

Obituary: Sharon R. Elstein



Sharon R. Elstein died peacefully on August 15, 2011 at home surrounded by family, after a courageous battle with leukemia. Sharon was born on December 19, 1954 in Adel, GA to Melvin and Faye Ornstein Rainbow, of blessed memory. She married Morris in 1974 while he was at the Medical College of Georgia. Sharon completed her degree at MCG in Medical Records Administration, now "HIM."

Sharon and Morris moved to Virginia Beach in 1977 building a rich life in the community. Sharon began her professional career at Virginia Beach General Hospital as director of Medical Records, retiring for 16 years to raise their two sons, Nathan and Jacob. When she returned to work, she specialized in medical record coding. Sharon approached her profession as if it were a forensic science, and her family fondly referred to her as the "master coder." She was the President of THIMA, her local professional organization. Sharon was an active member of Temple Emanuel, teaching in the Sunday School, organizing the library, and chairing the membership committee.

Sharon is survived by her husband, Dr. Morris Elstein and her two sons, Nathan and Jacob (fiancée Leah). She has two sisters, Barbara Blumenfeld (Jack) and Carol Lazarus (Howard).

The Elstein family wishes to thank the superb professional staff at Virginia Beach General Hospital and at Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center who never gave up hope and provided excellent care, comfort and encouragement. A special thank you goes to Drs. Celeste Bremer and Krista Dobbie, who guided us every step of this journey.

Funeral services were held Wednesday the 17th at 11:00 AM at Temple Emanuel, 424 25th Street, Virginia Beach 23451.

May our thoughts and prayers be with Sharon's family.



BELOW IS A LIST OF VHIMA PAST PRESIDENTS

**May we always remember and honor their contributions to
VHIMA**

Helen Titus, RRL 1951-1952	Naomi Thacker, RRL 1970-1971	Kathy Byrd, ART 1991-1992
Betsy Smith, RRL 1952-1955	Barbara Lee Peace, RRL* 1972-1973	Paige Ashley, RRA 1992-1993
Clarence Cauble, RRL 1953-1954	Linda Kasey, RRA 1972-1973	Edna Jones, RRA 1993-1994
Ellen Willis, RRL 1954-1955	Tommi Tomlinson, RRA 1973-1974	Don Hardwick, RRA 1994-1995
Clarence Cauble, RRL 1955-1956	Pat Mays, ART 1974-1975	Marion Swaim, RRA 1995-1996
Margaret Appleman, RRL 1955-1956	Becky Davenport, RRA 1975-1976	Arnita Perry, RRA 1996-1997
Nina Hayes, RRL 1957-1958	Barbara Fuller, RRA* 1976-1977	Carol Smith, RRA 1997-1998
Carolina Beattie, RRL 1958-1959	Barbara Fuller, RRA* 1977-1978	Kathy Byrd, RRA 1998-1999
Ruth Johnson, RRL 1959-1960	Lore Grob, RRA 1978-1979	Linda Vernon, RHIA 1999-2000
Marie P. Turner, RRL 1960-1960	Pat Mays, ART 1979-1980	Paula Moore, RHIA 2000-2001
Margaret Jones, RRL 1960-1961	Barbara Lee Peace, RRA* 1980-1981	Carol Smith, RHIA 2001-2002
Marie P. Turner, RRL 1961-1962	Dare Gray, ART 1981-1982	Lou Cassman-Ventura, RHIA 2002-2003
Chivie Stuckey, RRL 1962-1963	Dare Gray, ART 1982-1983	Marion Swaim, RHIA 2003-2004
Midred St. Leger, RRL* 1963-1964	Florence Bishop, ART 1985-1986	Gloria Litton, RHIA, CCS 2004-2005
Helen Deeharn, RRL 1964-1965	Donna Clark, RRA 1984-1985	Linda Vernon, RHIA 2005-2006
Maebelle Blanchard, RRL 1965-1966	Susan Shackelford, RRA 1985-1986	Cindy Phelps, RHIA 2006-2007
Irene Carter, RRL 1966-1967	Susan Shackelford, RRA 1986-1987	Karen Phipps, RHIA 2007-2008
Mary Abney Smith, RRL 1967-1968	Dianne Ferrell, RRA 1987-1988	Arnita Perry, RHIA 2008-2009
Mildred St. Leger, RRL* 1968-1969	Mildred Taylor, ART 1988-1989	Patty Campola, RHIA 2009-2010
Naomi Thacker, RRL 1969-1970	Jere Mundy, RRA 1989-1990	Kim Galloway, RHIA / Cindy Phelps, RHIA 2010-2011
	Debbie Roberson, RRA 1990-1991	