

Indiana
Abstract
Planting the Seed
Of
Knowledge

Joann Schultz, RHIT, CTR, President

I hope everyone had a great summer. I am looking forward to fall with its cool, crisp nights and the beautiful colors as the leaves change.

Samantha Kunz and Tracy Paulus have a great Fall Conference planned November 7th and 8th at the Embassy Suites North.

Please mark your calendars for NCRA's Annual Conference April 14-17 2021 in Indianapolis. I hope many of our members will be able to attend.

Mindy Burch has done a great job coordinating our ICRA Cookbook. The cook books will be available for sale at the Fall Conference. They would make great Christmas gifts. Proceeds will help fund the NCRA scholarship to the Indianapolis Conference.

This edition of the Abstract will feature a spot light on several ICRA members. Hopefully we will all learn more about our fellow registrars.

Thank you to everyone who agreed to have their name placed on the ballot. As I have said so often, I have made great friends while serving on the board. I hope when asked to run for an office or chair a committee your answer will be yes.

Thank you for allowing me the pleasure of serving as President for the third time. I hope to see everyone at the Fall Conference.

Martha Hill, CTR, AAS Past President

Farewell Message

It is hard for me to believe that in just a few short weeks, we will all be together at the 41st ICRA Fall Conference. It is also hard for me to believe that I will be passing the position of Past-President onto our current President, Joann Schultz.

When I accepted the position of Vice-President at the 2017 Fall Conference, I never fathomed that I would end up in the position of President. That being said, the past two years have been most rewarding years of my career. I again want to thank my ICRA Board for their support in moving ICRA forward. I could not have done anything without each of you.

I trust that each of you have exercised your right as an ICRA member and nominated yourself or someone else for an ICRA office. Please stay tune as soon you will be receiving a board cast e-mail with notice of voting. This year for the first time, we will be using Telusy's and holding an electronic vote. If you desire a paper ballot, please contact me and a paper ballot will be place in the mail. Please do so early as we want everyone to have their voice in the election. Using electronic ballot is working towards another ICRA goal of being greener, saving paper, postage and trees. I hope to see you all at the ICRA Fall Conference in November. I've seen the preliminary agenda and I know that you will enjoy the variety of speakers and topics.

Lisa LaGue, CTR Education Committee Chair

In January each year, ICRA members serving on the Board of Directors are responsible for establishing a set of goals they will strive to accomplish prior to the annual meeting of the membership during the annual Fall Conference.

Included in the 2019 goals listed for the Education Committee was to reestablish communications with surrounding state associations about the possibility of collaborating on a regional workshop. Several members of the association had expressed interest in attending a regional workshop in order to receive commendation for Standard 1.11 in the Commission on Cancer's *Cancer Program Standards: Ensuring Patient-Centered Care* manual.

To date, ICRA has only participated in two regional workshops and both were conducted in 2016. The Indiana Cancer Consortium collaborated with the Kentucky Cancer Registry and the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System to conduct a regional workshop in 2018.

Many registrars have previously acknowledged they are only allowed to attend one, if any, educational conference per year. Regardless of the organizer, these registrars will understandably opt to attend a national or regional meeting over a local meeting if given the choice. This is apparent when analyzing attendance records for ICRA's Fall Conference. Attendance was lower than expected in the years when regional workshops were offered.

Based on that, ICRA's BOD discussed changing things this year. Consideration was given to scheduling one day of the Fall Conference as an ICRA workshop in order to uphold the bylaws, which state the annual business meeting of ICRA shall be held in conjunction with the annual Fall Conference. The other day of the Fall Conference would be planned with another state and advertised as a regional workshop.

This plan was obviously contingent on another state working with ICRA and agreeing to the already established date and location. Unfortunately, no other state expressed an interest in collaborating with ICRA this year.

The Commission on Cancer will implement new accreditation standards in 2020. A draft version was released earlier this year but it did not include every chapter of the new manual; however, from what was included, commendation ratings may not be included for any standard and the standard pertaining to continuing education for registry staff only requires non-credentialed staff to complete three hours of cancer-related continuing education applicable to their roles. There is no specified requirement for CTR credentialed staff other than the implied requirement necessary to maintain the credential as overseen by the National Cancer Registrars Association.

In light of the proposed new standards, ICRA's BOD has already discussed plans for next year. Although attendance at regional meetings will not be required, nor will it result in a higher compliance rating, the Education Committee will set a goal to collaborate with another state to conduct a regional workshop in 2020.

At this time I am inviting ICRA members to volunteer to serve on the Education Committee in order to accomplish this goal of conducting a regional workshop. If you would be willing to serve as a member of ICRA's Education Committee, please send me an e-mail, lisa.lague@comcast.net.

BY-LAWS committee updates: New proposed BY-LAWS are complete and attached to the Abstract for review. This will be put to a vote at our annual conference this fall. The proposed changes address the language used in BY-LAWS to refer to the fall conference as annual conference.

Quick overview of By-laws committee responsibilities: Ensure that the Board of Directors meetings and Annual business meeting are in line with ICRA By-laws. Robert's Rules of Order, 11th Edition governs ICRA in all cases in which they are applicable and when they are not in conflict with our ICRA By-Laws. Serve as the ad hoc ethics committee as needed. Amendments to the By-laws can be proposed by individual voting members or the Board of Directors.

	<p>Article V Section I A.</p>	<p>The annual business meeting of ICRA shall be held in conjunction with the annual Fall Conference.</p>	<p>The annual business meeting of ICRA shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Conference.</p>	<p>To make the Bylaws uniform throughout to refer to the Annual conference as Annual Conference instead of Fall Conference.</p>
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	<p>Article XI Section IV B. Standing Committees: E.</p>	<p>Conference Registration Fees for Board of Directors Members: The Board of Directors shall have the option to reduce the registration fees for elected officers, committee chairs and liaisons for the Fall Conference. The decision to reduce these fees will be made at the first Board of Directors meeting of each calendar year and will depend on the financial status of the ICRA treasury.</p>	<p>Conference Registration Fees for Board of Directors Members: The Board of Directors shall have the option to reduce the registration fees for elected officers, committee chairs and liaisons for the Annual Conference. The decision to reduce these fees will be made at the first Board of Directors meeting of each calendar year and will depend on the financial status of the ICRA treasury.</p>	<p>To make the By-laws uniform throughout to refer to the Annual conference as Annual Conference instead of Fall Conference.</p>
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<p>§ Article XI Section IV H.</p>	<p>The ICRA Board of Directors shall have the option of furnishing the Program Chairman for the Fall Conference with paid lodging fees when that chairman must travel to the meeting site and stay overnight.</p>	<p>The ICRA Board of Directors shall have the option of furnishing the Program Chairman for the Annual Conference with paid lodging fees when that chairman must travel to the meeting site and stay overnight.</p>	<p>To make the By-laws uniform throughout to refer to the Annual conference as Annual Conference instead of Fall Conference.</p>
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Samantha Kunz, CTR ICRA Liaison

Happy FALL!!! Not only is this such a wonderful time of year but it is also my birthday month. Every year, I like to take stock of what I have accomplished the previous year and set new goals for myself as I move forward. Aging is a privilege denied to many and I am always thankful to have had another trip around the sun.

This past year, I have had the opportunity to create this brand-new position of Liaison. It has been fun forming ideas of how this new position should operate and what the objectives should be. I feel like the main objective of the Liaison is to keep the Board and the membership abreast of any significant changes in our career field. One change that I want to highlight is that the CoC standards are being modified. Some of these proposed changes are good and others seem to be...interesting. I will be attending the CoC Summit in November to try to remain up-to-date on the fluctuations and I encourage everyone to reach out to me with any questions that I might be able to help address. I am not claiming to be an expert, but I do enjoy helping other so perhaps I can shed some light on questions you may have.

Moving forward, I would like to continue to build on this position. If I continue to serve next year, I have a goal of sending out a monthly email blast with highlights/updates from the CANSWER Forum and any other organization that seem helpful. Personally, I struggle with the CANSWER Forum. I feel that is can be hard to navigate, confusing, and just plain frustrating. So, I want to make it my mission in 2019 to become a super-user of this platform. I know that it is paramount to my data-quality to be proficient in this resource and I plan to overcome it. I want to share with the membership my findings and therefore, hopefully make Indiana's data quality better in the process.

In conclusion, I am hoping by this time next year I can look back and feel proud of the improvements I have made to myself and perhaps to the ICRA membership. I look forward to seeing you all at the ICRA Fall Conference. I helped plan it this year and I really hope you all enjoy yourselves. We even have a balloon artist coming to help with the decorations!

2019 NCRA – Denver, CO

Luck was on my side this year when my name was drawn to receive the 2019 ICRA scholarship to NCRA! Flying into the Mile-High city was amazing. The Rocky Mountains are not shy and were showing off their splendor immediately. The drive to the hotel from the airport was about forty-five minutes, which allowed for an even more spectacular view of the peaks along the way.

The educational highlights of the conference, for me, were the presentations by Wilson Apollo on coding radiation therapy, Donna Gress on navigating the AJCC manual, and Amanda Kraushaar regarding Excel tips and tricks. All three of these presentations shed light on aspects of my job that are occasionally confusing. Due to Amanda's great presentation, we have booked her to speak at the 2019 ICRA Fall conference! Additionally, I co-hosted a round-table discussion regarding mentoring. It was very encouraging to meet other CTRs who have answered the call to propel our profession onward by training the next generation of Registrars. All my experiences at this year's national meeting left me feeling very energized and proud of my profession. That is really the best part about going a national meeting; even though it is three days of grueling education, you come back eager to implement all you have learned!

I would be remiss if I didn't give an update about the food because isn't this really what makes or breaks an event? The food was great! The breakfasts consisted of your typical carbohydrate breakfasts, but the bagel cream cheeses were wildly good; salmon and chive! Of course, the coffee was flowing, and they even provided flavor shots which was a nice touch. The included lunches were very good and healthy for the most part. I didn't leave any of the provided meals in a food coma, which is always appreciated. The hotel location was perfect for the days and evenings when we were on our own for meals. I dined on some heavenly Italian food, a Tex-Mex place, and a dive bar with great bison burgers! Unfortunately (or fortunately depending on how you look at it), I found a gourmet candy shop near the hotel. I proudly limited myself to just two truffles and a square of almond toffee.

In conclusion, the 2019 NCRA meeting was a huge success in my eyes. The location couldn't have been better, the food was good, and the education left me feeling energized. What else could you ask for?!? Denver, Colorado was all peaks and no valleys for me and I want to extend a sincere thank-you to the ICRA membership for supporting all the fund-raising efforts at the Fall conference which allows us to send a member each year. Education is paramount in our profession and I am proud of ICRA for always focusing on this.

Samantha Kunz, CTR

Joann Schultz, RHIT, CTR WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. Paul and I have been busy planning our fund raising efforts for the Fall Conference. We will have our ever popular Silent Auction, if you would like to donate an item for the auction please let me know. The 50/50 raffle will again be offered, tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Paul's great idea to hold a 12 Hours of ICRA Christmas will be back. Each day 6 names will be drawn during breaks and the winner will receive at least a \$25.00 gift card. Tickets sell for \$5.00. I am trying to arrange a Dining to Donate. Watch for a blast e-mail with details. Proceeds will help fund the NCRA Annual Conference member early bird registration. Looking forward to seeing you in November.

Martha A. Hill, CTR, AAS, Membership Chair

2019 Membership Drive is Successful

The 2019 ICRA Membership drive has been very successful. At this writing we have 87 members, and our goal is 100. If you know of someone who is not a member, please pass along a membership application, or one may be found on the ICRA website. Membership closes 60 days prior to the ICRA Fall Conference per the ICRA By-Laws.

This year we will be placing membership applications into the Fall Conference packets. Members will have the opportunity to pay dues while at Conference. We will only be able to accept cash or checks as we do not have the means for credit and/or debit cards. You will be given your membership card and receipt for proof of payment. Prior to April 1, 2020 you will receive an e-mail with the 2020 user name and password. We hope that this will encourage people to pay early and to help us with our mission of working towards a green association.

ICRA holds a wealth of members with knowledge, experience and expertise in which one can glean on. I have never met a fellow registrar who was not willing to share or help in any way. I know that I would not have the knowledge base that I have if it were not for many of my ICRA friends and mentors who have lent me a hand and continue to help me with difficult coding issues, survey questions and even software issues.

Finally, I trust you are all planning to attend the ICRA Fall Conference. I know that Tracy Paulus and Samantha Kunz have been working hard to prepare a meaningful and educational program. Most importantly, conference affords us a chance to see old friends and make new ones. If you see someone who is a new comer to our conference, please take time to welcome them. This is how we will grow our association as well our profession.

Continuing with the thread of our successful membership drive I want to introduce a new section of the newsletter:

*****ICRA SPOTLIGHT*****

Meet Hanna Starr, CTR Schneck Medical Center

It is my pleasure to introduce to the ICRA membership my friend and our fellow registrar, Hanna Starr. I have known Hanna since she and my son were enrolled in Miss Wanda's Pre-School at age 3. We journeyed together into Elementary School, Jr. High School and taking the final walk at High School graduation. Hanna then received her degree in Dental Assisting from the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville. She then worked in a local dental office. She felt the need to leave the position and began working in Patient Registration at Schneck Medical Center.

I would often see Hanna out and about and say "Hanna, you need to get into Registry." After some urging Hanna began researching the profession and became very interested. She started working towards her certificate by enrolling and completing the AHIMA Registry course. When our fellow Registrar, Sherry Dowling retired, Hanna applied and was hired into her position. Hanna then began working under the tutelage of Sherry Dowling until recently passing her CTR Exam. Since November, Hanna has experienced a CoC survey, completed her AHIMA requirements, and passed her CTR exam. No small accomplishment for a new Registrar.

In her spare time, Hanna is an adoptive mom of two children who remind me of Hanna in her younger years. She is active in her church teaching Sunday school, working in the Media Department and singing in the choir.

Hanna also enjoys traveling the State of Indiana looking for new and fun adventures for her and her family to enjoy.

The advantage of a small town is getting to know the people in it. I am so grateful for Hanna and her family. Hanna will be a great asset to the Registry field as well as ICRA.

Kimberly Cardin, RN, RHIT, CTR is one of the registrars at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Kim joined the cancer registry team in August of 2016 and obtained her CTR credential in 2017. Kim started her healthcare career as an LPN. After obtaining her nursing license, Kim worked first as a surgical nurse before transferring to the rehabilitation wing of a skilled nursing facility. Kim's favorite sites to abstract are kidney and lung. Kim and her husband have 6 horses, a mule, 2 dogs and several barn cats. She enjoys spending time with her grandson, Demetre.

Michelle (Shelly) Hill, CTR is the Cancer Registrar at LaPorte Hospital in LaPorte Indiana. She began working at LaPorte in the Cancer Registry in 2000. She obtained her CTR in 2006. Shelly is very active with HPV Education and Prevention in the LaPorte County Schools. She is involved with the Tour De LaPorte, which is sponsored by The Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte. The 3 day event is designed to raise money to help cancer patients in LaPorte County Her family is active at their church and 4-H. Her daughter shows ducks, geese and chickens at the LaPorte County Fair. She lives in LaPorte County with her husband and 2 children

LeAnn Capps, BA, CTR, Public Relations Chair

I am looking forward to conference in November. Reading the previous articles for the education, introductions to members I may have not met yet and looking forward to all of the activities that are being planned for this year I think will be a great time for every one. I know that the changes have been challenging and with all the learning curves we can always use a little diversion and even some entertainment at the conference., whether a few good laughs with each other while we learn some new tips and tricks for abstracting or something unique about another abstractor, it will be a great time.

We will have prize bags, cookbooks for sale– which will make nice gifts for upcoming holidays, and as always the vendors always have great drawings and giveaways!

Congratulations to Danielle Deckerd on winning ICRA scholarship drawing!!!

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!See everyone at Conference!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Save the Date!

Planting the Seeds of Knowledge

ICRA Annual Conference

Dates: November 7 - 8, 2019

Location: Embassy Suites; 3912 Vincennes Road, Indianapolis, IN



Join us for two days of learning, professional development,
networking and fun!

You won't want to miss this....

Jim Hofferkamp, BA, CTR from NAACCR will be presenting!

Registration will be opening soon

Watch for details!

Category A
CE's included!



Conference Location & Hotel Information

Embassy Suites by Hilton
Indianapolis North
3912 Vincennes Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268
Phone: 317.872.7700

Rates for those wishing to stay overnight have been guaranteed at Embassy Suites. Specify you are with the

Indiana Cancer Registrars Association
\$139.00 + 17% tax for two double beds/King bed

Reservation deadline for quoted rate is 12:00 midnight (EST) on October 10, 2019

Program Chair Contact Information

Tracy Paulus, CTR
Goshen Center for Cancer Care
Phone: 574. 364. 2894
Email: tpaulus2@goshenhealth.com

Samantha Kunz, CTR
Franciscan Health
Phone: 317. 528. 5766
Email: Samantha.Kunz@franciscanalliance.org

A \$20 late fee will be assessed for registrations postmarked after October 16, 2019. Walk-ins are not guaranteed lunch or conference packets.

Requests for refund must be submitted in writing to ICRA Treasurer (Angela Koszyk). Requests submitted after October 10, 2019 will be reviewed in January 2020 by the Board of Directors for consideration of a partial refund.



41st Annual Conference

Planting the Seeds of Knowledge

November 7-8, 2019

Estimated Continuing Education Hours:

11/07/19 Credit Hours: 6.25

11/08/19 Credit Hours: 5.25

Total Credit Hours: 11.5

(Includes estimated 6.25 Category A credits)

**National Cancer Registrars Association continuing education endorsement pending.*



Thursday, November 7, 2019

- 7:30-8:00am Registration
- 8:00-8:15am Welcome & Overview
- 8:15-9:15am Colorectal Cancer Diagnosis & Treatment
Dr. Ashley Hardy
Goshen General Hospital
- 9:15-10:00am Excellent Excel
Amanda Kraushaar, RHIA, CTR
Registry Partners
- 10:00-10:30am Break/Vendor Time
- 10:30-11:30am Radiation Coding
Mary Sokolowski, R.T.T., CTR
Parkview Cancer Center
- 11:30-1:00pm Lunch/Business Meeting/Awards
- 1:00-2:00pm Cancer Data Integration
Nancy Etzold, CTR
- 2:00-3:00pm Remote Cancer Registry
Nancy Etzold, CTR
- 3:00-3:15pm Break/Vendor Time
- 3:15-4:15pm CANSWER Forum
Clarifications
Melissa Crow, RHIT, CTR and
Samantha Kunz, CTR
Franciscan Health Indianapolis
- 4:15-4:45pm Indiana Cancer Registry Updates
Annette Guerin-Nauth, SCT (ASCP)
- 4:45-5:00pm Closing Remarks

Note: Presentation materials will be available to all registered attendees approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference to allow for printing or downloading. Printed handouts will not be provided at the conference.



Friday, November 8, 2019

- 7:30-8:00am Registration
- 8:00-8:15am Welcome & Overview
- 8:15-9:15am Work/Life Balance
Nancy Etzold, CTR
- 9:15-10:15am CoC Update/Standards
Valerie Vesich, RHIA, CTR
- 10:15-10:45am Break/Vendor Time
- 10:45-12:00pm Breast*
Jim Hofferkamp, CTR
NAACCR
- 12:00-1:30pm Lunch/Installation Ceremony
- 1:30-2:30pm Coding Pitfalls*
Jim Hofferkamp, CTR
NAACCR
- 2:30-3:30pm Boot Camp*
Jim Hofferkamp, CTR
NAACCR
- 3:30-3:45pm Closing Remarks

*Topic Subject to Change

Conference Attire: Business Casual

Contact Program Chair with any special dietary needs



Registration Form

(Detach and return with payment)

- ___ ICRA Member (Both days) \$160.00
- ___ ICRA Member Thursday Only \$110.00
- ___ ICRA Member Friday Only \$110.00
- ___ Non-Member (Both days) \$210.00
- ___ Non-Member Thursday Only \$150.00
- ___ Non-Member Friday Only \$150.00

Name: _____

Credentials: _____

Facility/Company: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

State: _____

Email: _____

Phone: (____) _____

(For Registration Confirmation)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 16, 2019

Registration/Payment Options:
Online at: <http://www.icra-indiana.net>
(transaction fee by Telusys will apply)

OR

Mail check payable to ICRA and completed registration form to:

Indiana Cancer Registrars' Association
c/o Tracy Paulus, CTR
1603 W. Pike Street
Goshen, IN 46526

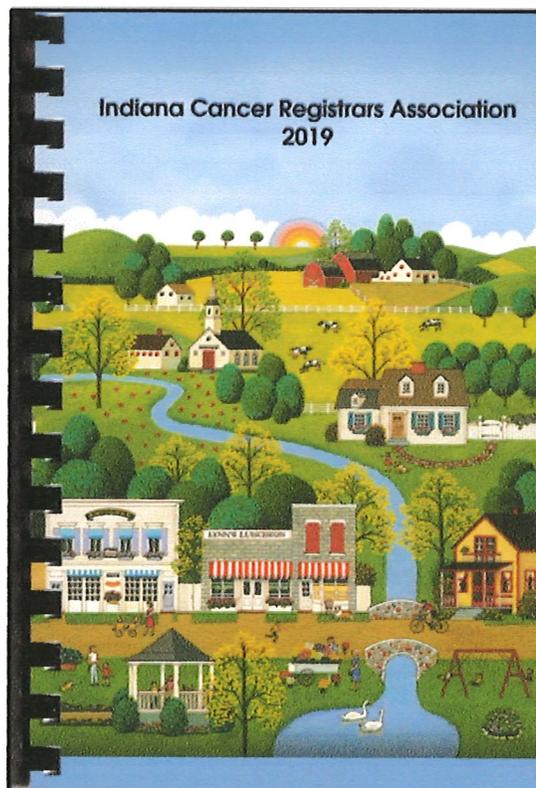
All checks returned for non-sufficient funds will be the responsibility of the incurring party.

Thank You and sincere appreciation to all those individuals who graciously contributed recipes and volunteered their time to the creation of this delightful 2019 ICRA Cookbook.

There were 200 recipes contributed to the 135-page spiral bound cookbook. Good news, the ICRA Cookbook will be available for sale at the ICRA Fall Conference for \$10 per cookbook or \$15 for two cookbooks. Just in time for some great holiday gifts for your family and friends.

We look forward to seeing you at the ICRA Fall Conference!

Mindy Burch, CTR
ICRA 2019 Cookbook Chair



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