I can’t believe it’s June already! As I write this, the calendar says it’s the first day of summer. Where is the year going?

I still want to implement many things before the year is out. One of my goals was to update the GATRA website to make it more useful and user friendly. I want to update the inks to other websites that are helpful for the Cancer Registry. Please send me any websites you use regularly or find helpful in performing your job.

On another note, I was able to attend the NCRA Educational Conference in Orlando this year (thanks to GATRA). So much great information crammed into 3 days. I was able to meet (and get reacquainted with) so many people from across the country. GATRA Scholarship winner John Cummings also attended the conference - see his article elsewhere in this issue.

I would be remiss if I didn’t remind everyone that GATRA’s scholarship contest represents a great opportunity to attend next year’s NCRA conference in Washington DC. See Dolores McCord’s article in this issue for more information. Many Cancer Registrars have commented that budget cuts have prevented them from attending national conferences, making GATRA’s scholarship contest all the more valuable. Put on your thinking caps and start to work on your article!— what a great way to get to NCRA next year!

This year’s GATRA annual Education Conference is coming together very nicely, thanks to the hard work of the Education Committee and Chairperson Terri Richardson. It will be held in Duluth (metro Atlanta). Make sure you mark your calendars for November 8, 9, and 10 to attend.

The CTR workshop will be held at Gwinnett Medical Center on August 12 and 13. Check out the GATRA website for details or contact John Cummings. Pass this information on to anyone who is planning to sit for the CTR exam in the near future or if you know someone that just needs a refresher course or overview of our field.

Some other interesting tidbits I’ve learned lately:

- If you are being surveyed in 2012, you will be evaluated based on the old standards, not the 2012 standards. If you’ve looked at the new standards you realize that there are major changes. This "reprieve" is only temporary. The final version of the new standards will be out in July or August of this year. Check the ACoS website for the final version once they are released.

- If you are a RHIA or RHIT, beginning in 2012 you will have to earn 6 CEU’s in ICD 10 coding. Look at the AHIMA website for more information on this.

- Several students are looking for registries to do their practicum/internship or for acquiring the hours they need to qualify to sit for the CTR exam. If you are interested in having a student in your registry please contact me.

- Greater Atlanta AHIMA asked if we could provide them with a speaker to make a presentation on the topic. Dolores McCord happily agreed to speak to them, and I hear it was a great hit!

Don’t forget to send me your helpful websites — and if you have any questions NCRA or what I learned in NAPBC and/or COC survey savvy— please contact me anytime.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

GATRA/GCCR FALL CONFERENCE

GATRA / GCCR Annual Educational Conference
Registry Marathon Training: Preparing for the Long Run

Where: Gwinnett Place Marriott,
1775 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth, 30096

When: November 7, 8 and 9, 2011
- Monday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Tuesday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Wednesday: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Topics:

- GIST, Esophageal, and GE Junction Malignancies
- Meningioma & Glioblastoma Multiforme
- GYN Malignancies
- CoC & NAPBC Accreditation/Standards
- Putting Public Health Data into Practice
- AJCC TNM Staging 7th Edition Changes

Registration: $150 – Registration packets will be e-mailed out no later than October 1.

More Info: Contact Education Chair Terri Richardson, CTR, at 404-501-5677 or therese.richardson@dekalbmedical.org
GATRA member from Upson Regional Medical Center, Lisa Connor, received the Outstanding New Professional award from the National Cancer Registrars Association (NCRA) during the May 2011 NCRA Annual Conference in Orlando, FL.

Connor was chosen as the recipient of the Outstanding New Professional award for her leadership, innovation, creativity, motivation and significant contribution to the profession. She was nominated by her supervisor at Upson and her colleague at Electa Impact, a software company with specialty in cancer registries.

In three years, Lisa has brought Upson’s cancer registry up-to-date, all the while on a vertical learning curve.

Kathy Dunaway of Electa Impact, said “Bringing the registry up-to-date would have been an immense challenge for an experienced registrar. From the moment Lisa started, she took charge and set out to learn everything she could about being a cancer registrar and the intricacies of managing a registry.”

Upson’s Health Information Management Leader Julie Tyson, said, “Lisa has turned the registry into one that our hospital and physicians are proud of; and she has done it in an amazingly short period of time.”

While accomplishing all this, she also managed to set aside many hours to study, prepare for and pass her exam, and ultimately become a Certified Tumor Registrar.

Upson CEO David Castleberry credits Connor’s passion. “The cancer registry is far more than a job to Lisa, and it shows. She does not merely document cases of cancer, she saves lives – one abstract at a time. The information she collects will help us eventually win the war on cancer.”

Lisa has been a CTR since 2009. She has been married to her wonderful husband, Tim, for 20 years and has two daughters: Hayley (17) and Ashley (9). Lisa enjoys her job to the fullest as well as spending time with her family. She says she has great support from her family as well as her supervisor and physicians. From all of us at GATRA … CONGRATULATIONS to LISA on this very prestigious award!

The Top 3 Reasons for Choosing ERS

“ERS really listens to their customers and updates the system with the cancer registrars’ needs in mind.”

Cathy Rimmer Forsyth Hospital Winston-Salem, NC

“ERS automates multiple cancer registry processes by merging data from Pathology, the EMR Disease Index, and various Follow-Up sources, significantly enhancing the timeliness and completeness of our registry database. Now, I wonder how we ever got along without them!”

Terri Richardson, CTR Dekalb Medical Center Decatur, GA

To learn more about ERS or to schedule a demo, call or visit our website today

1-800-824-9020 | www.ers-can.com
NOMINATIONS FOR GATRA 2012 EXECUTIVE BOARD

by Anna Muza, CTR, GATRA Nominations Chair

I know … every summer the “official” nominations letter goes out from GATRA and you think, “I am too busy to do anything like that”. With all the new standard changes and extra items to abstract—that sentiment is felt more than ever. But there are always a few of your fellow GATRA members that heed this call and make the time to serve our organization. We ALL have benefitted from the efforts of these GATRA members (THANKS!). Now would you consider heeding the call, or do you know someone that would? Contact Anna Muza, GATRA Nominations Chair.

2011-2012 NCRA Board of Directors

by Terri Richardson, RHIA, CTR, 2011 GATRA Education Chair

The NCRA 37th Annual Education Conference was held at the Disney Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, FL, May 16-18, 2011. The conference was packed with informative and timely educational sessions. Along with the professional development and educational opportunities, the program included many occasions for registrars to network and to meet their colleagues. If you have never attended a national meeting—I encourage you to do so in the future.

Installation of the 2011-2012 NCRA Board of Directors was held during the Awards luncheon on Wednesday, May 18, 2011. Sally Kruse, this year’s program chair, had the honor of presiding over the installation of Melanie Rogan, President. A complete list of the newly elected officers is available at the NCRA website.
NCRA 2011 in Orlando: Lots of Sun, Lots of Learning

By John Cummings, CTR

You may have noticed recently, as have I, that a number of the more prestigious scholarly journals have published articles reviewing research studies examining an unusual increase in information retention among participants at educational conferences who were concomitantly exposed to large doses of Florida sunshine.

Well, maybe I misread those articles, but a week of beautiful Orlando weather helped make a terrifically informative NCRA Educational Conference (“Enchantment, Enrichment & Education”) all the nicer.

It began May 16 with keynote speaker Scott Burton, a stand-up comic, award-winning juggler, and survivor of osteosarcoma. Anyone who ever thought there’s nothing funny about the experience of being diagnosed with and treated for a life-threatening disease at age 30 hasn’t heard this guy! He kept the room in stitches for a solid hour with his enthusiastic-bordering-on-manic comedic wit and his amazing hand-eye coordination.

The remainder of the week was devoted to the more serious business of getting up to date on such registry topics as an overview of “Ask a SEER Registrar” and the SEER Inquiry System (“SINQ” - a collection of questions that SEER-registry cancer registrars have submitted about hematopoietic, MP/H, and ICD-O-3 topics (websites: “Ask a SEER Registrar” - http://www.seer.cancer.gov/registars/contact.html, & SINQ - http://www.seer.cancer.gov/seerinquiry/index.php)), the CAnswer Forum (another resource for obtaining answers to coding, staging and other abstracting questions - the successor to the old ACoS I&R system - http://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums), a presentation by Dr. Frederick Greene of proposed 2011 Cancer Program Standards changes (nothing set in stone yet, but final approval of new standards is anticipated by sometime in June), an overview of the advantages of participating in the Rapid Quality Reporting System (RQRS), lots and lots of practice on Collaborative Staging site specific factors for a number of sites, advances in robotic prostate cancer surgery, and much more.

Anyone who has ever visited a Disney property knows that, among other things, (1) staff there are friendly, gracious and quick with a broom, mop or towel when a spill or other mess occurs, (2) there will be lots of pre-adolescent kids around, the great majority of whom really, REALLY dig the place, and (3) the restaurant food is really, REALLY over-priced. I found all of these things to be the case at the meeting venue, Disney Coronado Springs Resort.

Overall I enjoyed my stay immensely (thanks to GATRA’s generosity, in the form of the NCRA Essay Scholarship). Coronado Springs Resort is probably better suited to the needs of Mom, Dad and the kids than to attendees of a conference as large as NCRA’s, mostly due to the long outdoor walks from the hotel rooms to the meeting rooms (fortunately the weather was splendid), but my hotel room was spotless, quiet and comfortable, and the meeting room facilities were likewise excellent. My sincere thanks to GATRA Vice President Dolores McCord and all GATRA members for their involvement and kindness in making this opportunity available for me. You’ve heard it before from previous essay contest winners, but let me add my two cents: take advantage of a chance to write your own essay contest entry next year - it’s more than worth it!

GATRA, Inc. 2011 NCRA Scholarship Award

By Dolores McCord, RHIT, CTR

A reminder of the NCRA Scholarship awarded each year to one member – a recap of the major points:

- Scholarship Topic: Describe the method you would recommend or use to train a new CTR (or eligible) registrar to ensure that they understand and learn all aspects of the cancer registry field
- Candidate Qualifications: Member in good standing of both GATRA and NCRA
- Required Documentation: Completed application and essay on topic of 500 to 750 words;
- Get application or more information from Dolores McCord: Phone 404-425-7941, email dolores.mccord@piedmont.org or fax 404-564-5941

Deadline: September 30, 2011
GATRA's Fall 2011 CTR Exam Workshop
By John Cummings, CTR

Please spread the word - another installment of GATRA’s legendary CTR Exam Workshop is fast approaching! The Fall workshop is scheduled for August 12-13, 2011, and we have changed the location this time - it will be conducted at Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville, GA. The cost is $55 for GATRA members, and $60 for non-GATRA members (a modest increase). As always, the attendees will benefit from the exceptional knowledge and experience of our presenters, who are some of the "best and brightest" GATRA members. While we don't (of course) guarantee that attendees will earn a passing score on their exam, over the years many cancer registrars have made our workshop a significant part of their successful preparation for the CTR exam, and we are confident that that will be the case for attendees this Fall - the presenters are updating their presentations to reflect the changes in staging, standards, abstracting, and so forth, that the candidates will be tested on. All in all, it's proven to be a very productive two days for past attendees, and an excellent value.

The registration form, which includes all details about the workshop, is posted on GATRA's web site (www.gatraweb.org), and can also be obtained by contacting John Cummings, CTR, at jcummings@gwinnettmedicalcenter.org or by at telephone 678-312-4471. Registration deadline is August 3, 2011, and attendance is limited to 20 participants, so if you or anyone you know is planning to sit for the Fall CTR Exam, please get the word out!

New Ways & Means Items Available for Purchase
By Alison Townsend, CTR, Ways & Means Chair

We have great news! We have ordered new Ways & Means items with our new GATRA, Inc. logo! After several surveys of the membership and lots of debate by the Ways & Means Committee—we narrowed the purchase down to 3 different items. All items will have the new GATRA logo on them. The new items are: CTR badge holder, laser pen and insulated lunch bag. Prices will range from $5.00 to $6.00.

You're going to want these great items! We will be selling them at our next GATRA/GCCR Conference in November. So be saving those pennies and be sure to stop by and see us at the conference.

We will also be having a “clearance sale” on the remaining blue padfolios. See the ad in this issue of the newsletter for more info!

As always, thank you for your support!
Clarification on Coding: Part 2
Effective Dates for Standard References, New Data Items and New Codes

submitted by Phyllis Wilson, MS, CTR

Last issue we provided clarification on coding of the Grade Path Value and Grade Path System data items. This issue we present Part 2—a list of effective dates for standard references, new data fields and new codes.

International Classification of Diseases for Oncology, ICD-O books:
SEER Extent of Disease Manuals (EOD)

Collaborative Staging System: 2004 –
- CS version 02.02 effective 2010
- CS version 02.03 effective 2011

Summary Staging
- SEER RX application first available 2005. Link to download application

Field Changes:

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<th>Field Name (s)</th>
<th>Field Number or other comments</th>
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<td>Race 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
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<td>Histology 03</td>
<td>N522</td>
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<td>N523</td>
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<td>2003</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RxSumm-Scope Reg LNSurg</td>
<td>N1292</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RxSumm-Scope Oth Reg/Dist</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rx Summ Systemic Surgery Sequence</td>
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<td>Ambiguous Terminology</td>
<td>N442</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Date Conclusive Diagnosis</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Code 16: Asian Indian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Code 17: Pakistani</td>
</tr>
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Beyond data collection there’s knowledge

METRIQ® cancer registry software for integrated workflow, improved productivity

METRIQ® does more than manage your cancer registry data; it helps increase productivity and improve data quality. Designed to be intuitive and efficient, METRIQ speeds the registrar through collection and reporting, transforming data into the knowledge clinicians need to analyze outcomes and better allocate patient care resources.

METRIQ has a dedicated team of certified tumor registrars ready to assist with registry operations and provide oncology data management support. The result: an overall customer service satisfaction rating of 97%.

You, your medical team and your patients deserve the best. Learn more at www.elekta.com/metriq.

Experience the Elekta Difference
Meet Your Board Member: John Cummings, CTR, Education Chair/CTR Workshop

Name: John Cummings, CTR. I’m not married, don’t have kids or pets although I do have several GREAT nieces and nephews. Playing golf is the way I'd prefer to spend my non-working time, but because I don't make enough time for it, my game is pretty wretched!

Current Employer: Gwinnett Medical Center
Current Position: Cancer Registrar
Number years in this position: Eight
Number years in registry profession: Eight 1/2

What is the most rewarding aspect of your current position? Knowing that our efforts continually make significant improvements in the lives of cancer patients

What are the biggest challenges facing registrars today? The need to find resourceful ways to utilize our data to address the needs of both the researcher and the clinician

What are the biggest changes in the registry profession since you first started in the field? The data we're collecting - we're collecting more, and it's becoming much more detailed

Number of years as GATRA member: Eight
Previous GATRA Board positions: Ways & Means, Education, and Public Relations committee memberships, Treasurer, Secretary

How has being a GATRA member benefitted you (both professionally and personally)? Professionally it has been the single best resource I know of for keeping up the all the changes we have to assimilate. Personally, it's been terrific having the chance to associate with so many talented and generous professionals!

What do you see as the benefits to being a GATRA Board Member? More than anything else, I have the opportunity to give back to an organization that I have gained so much from

What advice would you give to new registrars just starting in the profession? Find a experienced registry mentor who is willing to guide you and don't be afraid to ask questions. There are no dumb questions when you are just beginning.

Meet Your Board Member: Susanne Jonas, CTR, Treasurer-Elect

Name: Susanne Jonas. I have been married for over 40 years. I am a licensed amateur radio operator (HAM). I volunteer in communications during times of emergency and talk around the world for fun.

Current Employer: Memorial Health University Medical Center, Curtis and Elizabeth Anderson Cancer Center – Savannah, GA
Current Position: Lead Cancer Registry Abstractor
Number years in this position: less than 1 year as Lead Abstractor
Previous registry experience: Cancer Registry Abstractor 6 years

Number years in oncology profession: Being a CTR is a second career for me. I was a RTR, RTT for 34 years, most of this time I was Manager of Radiation Oncology. I was closely involved with the Cancer Registry.

What is the most rewarding aspect of your current position? Providing accurate data to support screening, prevention, treatment and research for oncology

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing registrars today? Obtaining complete information even with electronic medical records; staying current on the changes in data definitions; Maintaining follow-up in this very mobile society

What do you see as the biggest changes in the registry profession since you first started in the field? CTR’s are being recognized as part of the oncology team; The amount of data requested has significantly increased

Number of years as GATRA member: 7 years
Previous GATRA Board positions: none

How has being a GATRA member benefitted you (both professionally and personally)? The meetings and newsletters have helped me stay current on the many changes in Collaborative Staging, Hematopoietic and Lymphoid abstracting. It has helped me develop a network of CTRs who are excellent resources.

What do you see as the benefits to being a GATRA Board Member? Having an opportunity to help position GATRA for the future and being able to participate in the planning for programs and services for GATRA

What advice would you give to new registrars just starting in the profession? Find a mentor, do not be afraid to ask questions and do not let the frequent changes in data definitions frustrate you
Edits to 2009 CAP Cancer Protocols Now Available

In response to errata published by the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC), the CAP released more than 50 updated Cancer Protocols, which are now available on the CAP website. No new required elements have been added to these protocols. A summary of changes is listed in the Protocol Revision History section available on page three of every protocol.

Public Comment Period for the Invasive Breast Cancer Protocol Available Soon

The Invasive Breast Cancer Protocol was updated to incorporate requirements from the ASCO/CAP ER/PgR Guideline. A public comment period will take place before any new items are required. The CAP will send out future communications when the protocol is posted online for review. The CAP produces Cancer Protocols as a resource to pathologists to aid in effectively reporting surgical pathology findings necessary to provide quality patient care. The protocols consist of cancer case summaries (checklists) accompanied by background documentation. The background documentation includes detailed outlines, explanatory notes, and references. The updated CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (CAP eCC) will be available February 15, 2011.

Meet Your Board Member: Alison Townsend, CTR, Ways & Means Chair

Name: Alison Townsend, CTR. I am married to the love of my life, my best friend, Danny, for the past 9 years. I have one Step-Son, Daniel, currently in construction, and so far, no grandchildren. We have two cats: ET (who is a rascal!) and Tux (who is my sweetie!). I love to do various crafts, traveling, spending time w/ my family. Oh, and I LUV BLING! Real, fake, doesn’t matter! If it’s sparkly, then I love it! (Editor’s Note: Anyone who has ever been shopping with Alison knows this bling stuff to be true!)

Current Employer: Piedmont Fayette Hospital

Current Position: CTR

Number years in this position: 1

Previous registry experience: CTR for Doctors Hospital, Columbus, GA; Head CTR/Registry for West GA Health System, LaGrange, GA; Contract CTR for multiple hospitals/facilities with: (1) Cancer Data Management Services, Thomaston, GA (2) GCCS/GCCR, Atlanta, GA (3) Registry Partners, Inc, Burlington, NC.

Number years in registry profession: 14 years

What is the most rewarding aspect of your current position? Knowing that the information we collect helps researchers in their quest for finding a cure to end cancer which in turn helps the general public.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing registrars today? The enormous amount of changes we face on a continuing basis regarding the collection of cancer information.

What do you see as the biggest changes in the registry profession since you first started in the field? We now have formal education in place whereas when I started in the field, everyone learned on the job.

Number of years as GATRA member: 13 years

Previous GATRA Board positions: ACS Liaison; Vice President, Chair-Ways & Means

How has being a GATRA member benefitted you (both professionally and personally)? Meeting fellow registrars and establishing lasting friendships, getting all of our training from GATRA conferences, and mentorship between fellow CTRs.

What do you see as the benefits to being a GATRA Board Member? I am able to personally contribute to the progress/continuance of GATRA, Inc. As GATRA strives to continue our education, I feel that serving as a Board Member helps to accomplish this goal. I feel good about being an active member of my organization.

What advice would you give to new registrars just starting in the profession? Stick with it! Join GATRA, Inc. for mentorship, friendship/fellowship. You will gain so much from being a member of our organization and not feel like you are stuck somewhere off to yourself.
8 Common Email Mistakes & How to Avoid Them

Submitted by Betty Gentry, BS, CTR

Mistake #1: Sending before you mean to. Enter the recipient's email address only when your email is ready to be sent. This helps reduce the risk of an embarrassing misfire, such as sending an important email to the wrong person or emailing a half-written note.

Mistake #2: Forgetting the attachment. If your email includes an attachment, upload the file to the email BEFORE composing it. This eliminates the embarrassing mistake of forgetting it before hitting “send”, and having to send another email saying you forgot to attach the attachment.

Mistake #3: Not reviewing all new messages before replying. When you return to the office after a week or more away, review all new emails before firing off responses. It might be hard to accept, but odds are, things did march on without you. Replying to something that was already handled by a co-worker creates extra communication, which can lead to confusion, errors, and at the very least, water time for everyone involved.

Mistake #4: Including your email signature again and again. Nor do you need to include it at the end of an email you send to your long time co-worker who sits six feet away. If you have your email program set to automatically generate a signature with each new message, take a second to delete it when communicating with someone who knows who you are. It’s always wise to include your phone number, but the entire blurb with your title and mailing address is often nothing but clutter.

Mistake #5: Composing the note too quickly. Don’t be careless; write every email as if it will be read at Saint Peter’s Square during the blessing of a new Pope. Be respectful with your words and take pride in every communication.

Mistake #6: Underestimating the importance of the Subject line. The subject line is your headline. Make it interesting, and you’ll increase the odds of getting the recipient’s attention. Our inboxes are cluttered; you need to be creative and direct to help the recipient cut through the noise. You should consistently use meaningful and descriptive subject lines. This will help your colleagues determine what you’re writing about and build your “inbox street cred”, which means important messages are more likely to be read.

Mistake #7: Using incorrect subject lines. Change the subject line if you’re changing the topic of conversation. Better yet, start a new email thread.

Mistake #8: Expecting an instant response. Don’t send an email and show up at the recipient’s desk 30 seconds later asking if they’ve received it. They did, and they’ll answer at their earliest convenience. That’s the point of email.

Author: Andrew G. Rosen, USNews

The greatest danger in modern technology isn’t that machines will begin to think like people, but that people will begin to think like machines.

~Author Unknown

NCRA has released a new edition of Cancer Registry Management: Principles and Practices for Hospitals and Central Registries, a valuable resource for learning about cancer registration. This textbook provides detailed information on the essential responsibilities of a cancer registrar and showcases new discoveries and improved technologies. The book contains 42 chapters organized into six sections:

- Planning and Design of Registries
- Informatics
- Operations
- Uses of Registry Data
- Standard Setters and Professional Organizations
- Central and Other Registries

The textbook comes with a CD Review Guide that includes Question and Answer sections for each chapter, providing educators and students a quick way to gauge understanding. Earlier editions of the textbook were published as two separate companion volumes: one targeted to hospital cancer registries and the other to central or population-based cancer registries. The third edition brings the two together.

NCRA Member Price:
$163.00

Non-member price:
$189.00

Order today at:
http://www.ncra-usa.org/

Resource for Consolidated Coding References

We want all Registry Managers and Abstractors to know about a wonderful website for those with Internet access. Organized by primary site, the website provides ONE SOURCE for the following references needed for abstracting SEER required cancer data.

- Coding Guidelines, for selected Primary Sites
- MP/H Coding Rules: You select the format you prefer after clicking on this option
- CS Staging Schemas
- Surgery Codes

This one source is Appendix C of the SEER Program Code Manual. Appendix C was created to eliminate the use of several manuals.

The link to Appendix C is http://www.seer.cancer.gov/manuals/2010/appendixc.html. Open this link and then save it in a folder, go back to the folder and send the link to your desktop.

The live internet link to Appendix C allows abstractors and coders to complete a case without flipping from manual to manual. Furthermore, anytime a change is made to any of these documents or to a CS version, the most up to date version is always there and you do not need to add pages or update your manuals.

The only down side is that this manual requires internet access. Remember the entire state of Georgia is a SEER Registry so please use the SEER rules for coding.

Phyllis Wilson, MS, CTR
Director Registry Operations
Georgia Center for Cancer Statistics
Founded in 1976 and incorporated in 2010, GATRA is dedicated to promoting the ideals of the Cancer Registrar as a professional member of the health care team and to offer greater service to physicians, health care administrators, and ultimately the patient with cancer.

The GATRA Connection is published electronically 3 times per year (Spring, Summer and Fall/Winter) and is sent to membership via email. It provides a means of keeping Georgia registrars informed of upcoming events and other information of interest to the profession. Georgia hospitals may list job openings at no cost. Vendors may purchase advertising space at reasonable rates. All members are encouraged to submit articles for The GATRA Connection by contacting the current Publicity Chair.

COMING SOON: ISSUES OF THE GATRA CONNECTION NEWSLETTERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE GATRA WEBSITE (www.gatraweb.org). LOOK FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO DOWNLOAD FROM THE WEB COMING SOON!

Members Corner

The Members Corner is for the purpose of sharing news about our GATRA members, both at an individual level as well as their facilities. If you have news that you would like to share (about yourself or another GATRA member) please contact Joy Thompson, GATRA Publicity Chair, at JoyT@askcnet.org.

CONDOLENCES

Henrietta Kite, CTR, lost her husband on April 20, 2011 to pancreatic cancer. Her husband was diagnosed in February 2011 and the cancer had already metastasized to his liver and both lungs.

Henrietta hopes to return to work soon after being out on Family Medical Leave to care for her husband during his illness. She said it was great to see some of the GATRA members at the NCRA meeting and how proud she was of our state basket. She was very excited to have won one of the baskets herself (the Tennessee basket). Henrietta said that was a first for her.

Henrietta hopes to attend the GATRA Fall Conference in November and is looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones. Our condolences to Henrietta and her family; they are in our hearts and prayers.

GATRA / GCCR 2010
PAD/PORTFOLIO

Will be on sale for $5.00 at our next conference

While supplies last, we will be offering these wonderful Pad/Portfolios at the awesome price of $5.00 ($10 value) in November at our next Conference! For those of you that did not attend the fall conference in 2010, you may want one of these very nice portfolios for yourself! If you already have one, why not get one for a co-worker, friend or family member? For more information, call Alison at 770-719-5023 or email ... Alison.Townsend@piedmont.org.

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR WAYS AND MEANS