

Capital Chat

Message from the President1
Annual Convention & Expo.....1
TAHDI 2008 Annual Meeting.....2
Texan named Member of the Year....3

Capital Chapter AHDI Austin, Texas

September 2007 Volume 2



Capital Chapter AHDI

Upcoming Events

October 13, 2007
Annual Symposium

“Capitalize on Change”

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Seton Medical Center

*** See page 7 & 8 for Agenda
& Registration Form

December 8, 2007
**Annual Business Meeting &
Installation of 2008 Officers**
To be announced...

February 15-16, 2008
TAHDI Annual Meeting
Austin, TX
Marriott Austin South

Capitalizing on Partnership

Message from the President

I attended my first AHDI Annual Convention and Expo (ACE) in August along with 137 other “first timers” and it was a wonderful experience. There were 554 attendees including 34 from Texas and I enjoyed making several new friends. As a first timer, I was paired with a mentor who happened to be from the Dallas area and we hit it off very well. She was an ACE pro and gave me some great tips. I look forward to attending ACE in Orlando in 2008.

We are gearing up for our Capital Chapter annual symposium on October 13. I hope you have made plans to attend! We are partnering with the Capital Area Chapter of TxHIMA this year to present a joint symposium. This

is a new venture and one that we hope will be successful. Both of our associations face the same type of challenges, such as keeping existing members engaged and attracting new members, so we decided it was a good time to join forces and work together to share ideas and resources. Our members have similar professional interests in that we all work in a healthcare-related field – whether it's medical transcription, coding, or managing health information in some capacity. With constant change taking place in the healthcare industry, we can all benefit by collaborating and sharing knowledge and information.

I hope you will attend the symposium

[continued on page 2](#)

2007 Annual Convention and Expo

By Gloria Hamiter, CMT

Change is Everything was the theme for this year's Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDI) Annual Convention and Expo (ACE) in Reno, Nevada, from August 15-18 at the Grand Sierra Resort.

Events on Wednesday, August 15, were the House of Delegates and Annual Business Meeting, Leadership Appreciation Luncheon, and First Timers Orientation and Reception which

helped attendees make the most of events and resources available to them. On Wednesday night, the Welcome Reception was held in the outdoor pool area with a delicious buffet.

Thursday, August 16, began with breakfast and keynote speaker Richard Lederer, who spoke to us about the medical histories of American presidents. He also shared some bloopers and explained how changes in

[continued on page 3](#)



Capital Chapter members Christy Cole and Barbara Rasmussen at ACE in Reno.

Welcome

Please join us in welcoming our newest Capital Chapter AHDI member:

Sally Kelly

Capitalizing on Partnership (continued from page 1)

and enjoy some fun, fellowship, and learning. We are fortunate to have the support of several sponsors/exhibitors for our symposium, which allows us to keep registration fees affordable for our attendees. I remember attending my first Capital Chapter symposium as a student and I enjoyed it tremendously. I encourage students to take advantage of the special student registration fee and join us for a special day!

Many hours have been spent planning this event and I can barely contain my excitement when I talk about it. Our theme is *Capitalize on Change* and we are doing just that by forming a new "partnership" with the Capital Chapter of TxHIMA. With a wide array of speakers as well as members from both associations in attendance, participants will have the opportunity to meet new

people and learn more about other branches of the giant healthcare tree.

Of course, we all want to have fun as we learn and attendees will have the chance to take home some wonderful door prizes. There will also be a raffle for an iPod and a Portable DVD player! Attendees will be able to do some early Christmas shopping as the Capital Chapter AHDI will have some unique gift items available at their fundraising table. Enjoy a relaxing chair massage during the lunch break (\$1/minute).

The symposium registration form can be found on page 8 and you still have time to register! Arrive early to enjoy some breakfast, mingle, and buy a raffle ticket before the program begins. I hope to see you there!

TAHDI Annual Meeting Feb 15-16, 2008 - Austin

Planning is underway for the 2008 **Texas Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity** Annual Meeting and Leadership Conference. The event will be held on February 15 & 16 at the Marriott Austin Airport South location on IH-35. The event will be held in Austin in conjunction with the Capital Chapter's 25th Anniversary.

AHDI 2008 President **Betty Honkonen, CMT, FAAMT**, will be the Keynote Speaker. Don't miss this opportunity to meet Betty and hear her speak. Event information is being distributed now. Mail your registration by December 1st to receive the Early Bird discount.

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend the 2008 TAHDI Annual Meeting in Austin! We hope to see you there!

P.J. Posey, CMT, awarded AHDI Member of the Year

TAHDI President P.J. Posey, CMT, was honored as **Member of the Year** at the Annual Convention & Expo in Reno.

The Member of the Year Award serves to recognize an individual for outstanding commitment to and participation in the goals, objectives, and initiatives of the association. P.J.'s passion for students and graduates sparked the visionary goal of having medical transcription recognized as an apprenticeable occupation. P.J. worked with Department of Labor and MTIA to develop the Registered Apprenticeship Program that is in place today.

P.J. will be a speaker at our **Capital Chapter Annual Symposium on October 13** at Seton Medical Center. (See complete agenda on Page 7)

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2007 Annual Convention and Expo (continued from page 1)

language reflect changes in our lives. The exhibit hall opened at 10 a.m. which gave attendees the opportunity to see and buy products and services from 52 vendors, talk to MT services, and network with friends and colleagues. Educational sessions began at 2:15 p.m. when I attended a session on understanding foreign accents. After that, I went to a language workshop presented by Richard Lederer who gave us a common-sense approach to punctuation, grammar, and usage.

On Friday, August 17, the Online Chapter had its 4th annual meeting and AHDI Special Interest groups had an hour-long meeting. I attended 3 educational sessions. The first topic was transitioning from a traditional MT to the role of editor. The second session was about regenerative medicine and the recent advances in stem cell, tissue engineering, and longevity research. The third session was about applying ergonomic principles for desktop computer users. After the educational sessions ended that day, keynote speaker Richard Simmons brought his high energy, life-changing message to attendees. Participants joined him on stage and exercised to the music. Afterward, he spent time taking pictures with individual attendees and made sure everyone who wanted one got a picture.

I attended sessions on Saturday, August 18, about the latest techniques in plastic surgery and evaluation and treatment of low back pain. In the industry update session, Lea Sims unveiled the new logo, website, and tag line "Capturing America's Healthcare Story." AHDI President Cathy Baughman and CEO Peter Preziosi were among panel members who answered questions from attendees while providing insight into industry changes. Keynote speaker Jill Lublin took the stage on Saturday

afternoon and delivered an interactive workshop. She focused on ways to market oneself and communicate ideas more effectively.

The Red Dress Awards Gala was held Saturday evening and began with a fine dining experience to tunes from the Rat Pack era. The 2007 award winners were recognized including our own Texas Association President, P.J. Posey, who was awarded Member of the Year. AHDI President-Elect Betty Honkonen provided attendees with a laugh as she took the stage dressed as the Disney character Goofy and invited all attendees to join her in Orlando next year for ACE.

Be sure to visit AHDI's new website www.ahdionline.org and click on ACE 2007 Reno to view the Photo Gallery. You may even see some Capital Chapter members in those pictures! Information for purchasing audio recordings of the educational sessions and keynote presentations is also available.

This ACE was my 21st consecutive convention, but I still get excited about the educational sessions, the exhibit hall, special events, seeing old friends again, and networking. I am already thinking about next year's ACE in Orlando, Florida, from August 5-9 at the Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort.

Gloria Hamiter, CMT, talks with
Craig Carrero, Ergonomics Specialist



MT Survey

In conjunction with the focus groups conducted by Gary David, PhD, from Bentley College at ACE 2007, the first survey of medical transcriptionists is now available online. The survey is being conducted by a team of researchers from Bentley College (Waltham, MA) in conjunction with AHDI. The survey is meant for anyone (AHDI members and nonmembers alike) working in the medical transcription arena in any capacity and any location. The survey covers a variety of areas relating to healthcare documentation production and takes approximately **10 minutes** to complete. The survey is available now through December 15th. If anyone has any questions regarding the survey or the study, you can contact Dr. Gary David at [gdavid@bentley.edu](mailto:g david@bentley.edu), or call at 781-891-2698.

Take the survey at:
<http://surveys.bentley.edu/mtsurvey.htm>

Don't forget to visit the TAHD website for information on events across the state:
<http://www.texasmt.org>

Capital Chapter web page:
<http://texasmt.org/Capital.htm>

Thank You Sponsors

We would like to thank the sponsors of our Annual Symposium on Oct. 13:

[MTS of Texas](#)

[Transcend Services](#)

[M-TEC](#)

[Superior Global Solutions](#)

[Sten-Tel](#)

[Textware Solutions](#)

[Maxim Health Information Services](#)

[DicTran](#)

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Door Prizes have been donated by:

[TranscriptionGear.com](#)

[Spheris](#)

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[SPi](#)

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

TranscriptionGear.Com has donated 3 Glimmer headsets to be used as door prizes at our **Annual Symposium on October 13**. The Glimmer PC headset by Insight Headsets™ is an ultra-lightweight stereo transcription headset that features domed, directional ear buds and a comfortable design. It offers a 10-foot cord and a right-angle plug adaptable to your PC.

The headset sells for \$32.95 at www.transcriptiongear.com

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this product will be donated to the National Breast Cancer Foundation.



Proud sponsor of the National Breast Cancer Foundation



Capital Chapter Officers

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k_muelker@msn.com

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Immediate Past President

Pat Lang, CMT
plang@seton.org

TAHDI Representative

Jo Ann Kilsby, CMT, RHIT, FAAMT
joannkilsby@sbcglobal.net

The Capital Chapter needs you!

Are you interested in serving on a committee in 2008? There are several opportunities for volunteers to help with membership, meeting planning, our annual symposium, continuing education, newsletter, and more! If you would like more information, please contact Kathy at k_muelker@msn.com or 512-272-9142

Capital Chat Advertising Rates

Business Card..... \$15
Half Page..... \$25
Full Page..... \$50

Submit your ad via email to: K_Muelker@msn.com

Make checks payable to: **Capital Chapter AHDI**
Mail to: Wynette Becker, CMT, Treasurer
14567 Robert Walker Blvd.
Austin, Tx 78728

Board Partner Update

September 1, 2007

AHDI ACE 2007: Over 700 healthcare documentation specialists coming together for 5 days of education and networking. For those of you who were there, I'm sure you will agree with me! For those who were not able to attend, here's the "Reader's Digest" version.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14 – AHDI Board of Directors & Town Hall Meeting: The AHDI board meeting began at 9 a.m. the next day, and it was great to have such a gallery present! For those who have never been to a board meeting, I suggest you attend one when possible. All members are welcome to attend whenever they can. Here's the schedule of board meetings for **2008**:

January 31st thru February 1st - Atlanta, Georgia

April 23rd thru 26th - Long Beach, California/MTIA convention

August 5th through 9th – Orlando, Florida/AHDI convention

October 11th through 16th – Seattle, Washington/AHIMA convention

After the board meeting and a brief break, our Speaker of the House hosted a 2-hour Town Hall Meeting which produced some wonderful guidelines for us to work on in the House of Delegates the next day. There was great participation here too.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15 – House of Delegates Meeting: This was definitely a brand new HOD -- gone were the long tables and parliamentarian and in were small round tables with 5 or 6 people at each. Soon the work began in earnest as delegates went about strategic planning sessions with the gallery participating. Topics included technology, membership, advocacy, and communication and what programs should be initiated in advancement of these and other topics. Now the real grassroots effort begins as the delegates take these initiatives to the membership.

First-Timers and Welcome Reception: The First-Timers Orientation and Reception was very well-attended this year with over 140 first timers. Each board member and mentor did everything possible to make sure each first time attendee had a positive experience.

We ended this day with the Welcome Reception held outside at the pool. A lovely buffet was provided and lots of networking was accomplished.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16 – First Keynote Speaker: Our first keynote speaker was Richard Lederer, PhD, also known as "Conan the Grammarian." Dr. Lederer has been writing for our publications for many years and has been a keynote and guest speaker at our annual meetings many times as well. He always brings the house down and this year was no exception.

The Exhibit Hall was packed again this year with a multitude of products, educational programs, booksellers, MTSO recruiters, etc.

The BOD candidates had a table where they answered questions from attendees. There are 5 candidates for the AHDI BOD and one candidate for speaker-elect of the HOD. They are:

Stephen Dunkle [BOD candidate]

Ava Marie George [BOD candidate]

Trudi Griffith, CMT [BOD candidate]

Patricia James, CMT [BOD candidate]

Harriet Stewart, CMT, FAAMT [BOD candidate]

Brenda Hurley, CMT, FAAMT [HOD speaker-elect candidate]

Click [here](#) to review each candidate's profile. Click [here](#) and log on to the PPN to ask questions of the candidates. When you are ready to vote, simply go [here](#) to cast your vote electronically, or email ahdi@ahdionline.org to request a paper ballot. Polls will close Monday, **September 17, 2007**. **BE SURE TO VOTE – EVERY VOTE COUNTS!**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17 – Personal Health and Wellness: Keynote speaker, **RICHARD SIMMONS**, led us in exercise routines and then ended with a very motivational presentation. Following this, he remained until every single person wanting a photo with him had one.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18 – Leadership: Our final keynote speaker was Jill Lublin, who spoke on "Successful Leadership Through Visibility." She discussed tools to increase your communication skills, attract clients, and keep them.

The meeting concluded in grand style with the **RED DRESS AWARDS GALA!** Almost everyone who attended wore red in one form or another. It was truly a sea of red. Our award winners are as follows:

[Latisha Guthrie of Phoenix, Arizona](#) – Student Essay Contest

[Sandra Ash, CMT, FAAMT of Eugene, Oregon](#) – CMT Key Award

[Kathleen \(Kat\) King, FAAMT of Rogue River, Oregon](#) – Advocate of the Year

[Mayo Clinic, Office Support Services of Rochester, Minnesota](#) – Employer of the Year

[PJ Posey, BA, CMT of Coppell, Texas](#) – Member of the Year

[Claudia Tessier, CAE, RHIA of California](#) – Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award

CONGRATULATIONS to all our very deserving award winners.

After the Award Presentations, I had the honor of providing an overview of the 2008 AHDI Convention and Expo to be held in Orlando, Florida right next to Walt Disney World. [August 5- 9, 2008]. We already have our first confirmed keynote speaker: **Dr. G Medical Examiner**. Be sure to catch her show on Discovery Health – check your local listings or check out this link for a short biography and information about her TV show: <http://health.discovery.com/fansites/drg/bio/bio.html>.

Finally, I would be remiss if I failed to mention the incredible fundraising successes from our bowling competition (thanks Karen & Linda for your assistance) and our first-ever silent auction (thanks Susan for your innovation).

Betty Honkonen, CMT, FAAMT
2007 AHDI President-Elect
PA, MI, OH, & TX Board Partner

UPDATE: The votes are in! The newly elected board members who will serve from 2008-2010 are:

Ava George

Trudi Griffith, CMT, FAAMT

Harriet Stewart, CMT, FAAMT

The newly elected Speaker-Elect for the House of Delegates in 2008 & Speaker of the House in 2009 is:

Brenda J. Hurley, CMT, FAAMT



Capitalize on Change

Educational Symposium – October 13, 2007

Seton Medical Center (McFadden Auditorium) 1201 W. 38th Street Austin, Tx 78705

Presented by

The Capital Chapter Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity

in partnership with

The Capital Area Health Information Management Association

TxHIMA – District 17

- 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:45 - 9:00 a.m. Welcome
- 9:00 -10:00 a.m. **Wendy Cutler, M.D., Austin Diagnostic Clinic**
The Prevention and Diagnosis of Cervical Cancer
- 10:00 -10:15 a.m. Break / Exhibits
- 10:15 -11:15 a.m. **Bob Presley, Chief Legal Officer, Austin Diagnostic Clinic**
Building a Safer Healthcare System
- 11:15 -12:15 p.m. **Kelly Rott, Seton Shoal Creek Hospital Joint Commission IM Standards –**
What to Include in Your Plan of Corrective Action
- 12:15 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch / Exhibits & Vendors / Networking
- 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. **Mary Keeton, RHIA Long-Term Care Setting Health Information**
Documentation Regulations
- 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. **Shirley Evans, RHIT, CCS Reporting Medicare's Present on Admission**
Indicators to go into effect October 2007
- 2:30 - 2:45 p.m. Break / Exhibits
- 2:45 - 3:45 p.m. **P.J. Posey, CMT, President of the Texas Association for Healthcare**
Documentation Integrity AHDI Workforce Development Initiatives:
Registered Apprenticeship and Military Spouse Program
- 3:45 - 4:00 p.m. Closing / Raffle drawings (must be present to win)

Note: Presentations subject to change and subject to AHDI approval

~ 5 Continuing Education Credits anticipated ~

Breakfast and Lunch included! Fabulous Door Prizes!

Win an iPod or a Portable DVD Player in a raffle!

Enjoy a chair massage during the lunch break (\$1 per minute)

Offered by a Registered Massage Therapist

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REGISTRATION FORM

Please print clearly

Name _____

Credentials (circle): CMT RMT RHIA RHIT CCS CCS-P Other _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Print your full name below as you would like it to appear on name badge (include credentials):

Students:

Name of School _____ Area of study _____

** To qualify for student rates, you must include a letter from your instructor or program director as verification of enrollment in a medical transcription program, medical coding program, or other healthcare-oriented education program

____ Please check here if disabled requiring special services. Attach written description of needs.

REGISTRATION FEE

Please check the appropriate category and enclose payment

AHDI member # _____ AHIMA member # _____

AHDI and AHIMA members ___ \$40 Early registration (**postmarked by October 2**)
 ___ \$50 After Oct. 2 or at the door

Non-members ___ \$55 Early registration (**postmarked by October 2**)
 ___ \$65 After Oct. 2 or at the door

Students ___ \$15 Early registration (**postmarked by October 2**)
 ___ \$20 After Oct. 2 or at the door

Keep this portion for your records

Note: Registration fees are not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes but may be deductible as a business expense.

Refund Policy: Request for refund must be made in writing. If request is postmarked by October 2, 2007, 80% of the registration fee will be refunded. Refunds will not be given after October 2, 2007.

AHDI (formerly AAMT) Members/non-members/students
Make check payable to: Capital Chapter AHDI
Mail registration form and payment to:
Wynette Becker, CMT, Treasurer
14567 Robert Walker Blvd.
Austin, TX 78728

AHIMA Members/non-members/students
Make check payable to: CAHIMA – District 17
Mail registration form and payment to:
Norma Mercado, MAHS, RHIA, Treasurer
1807 E. Cesar Chavez
Austin, TX 78702

For questions, please contact:

Capital Chapter AHDI President, Kathy Muelker, RMT, 512-272-9142 or k_muelker@msn.com

Capital Area HIMA President, Christy Cole, RHIA, 512-251-8383 or christy@mtsoftexas.com