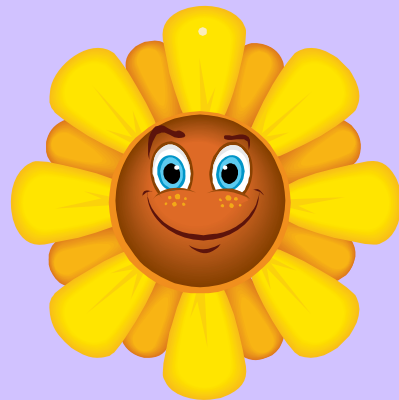


ACRA REMINDER

Spring 2014

Alabama Cancer Registrars Association 2013-2014 Officers and Committee Chairs

President - Joanne Powers
President Elect - Carol Kennemur
Immediate Past President - Lou Ellen Marchman
Vice President - Wendy Richardson
Secretary - Angela Phelps
Treasurer - Kelly Evers
Treasurer Elect - Lelia Edwards
Historian/Parliamentarian - Diane Lolley
Education - Angela Phelps
Bylaws - Carol Kennemur
Membership - Connie Jensen
Ways and Means - Paula Wyatt
Donations -
Nominating - Bonnie Nelson
Ballots - Rekha Khatri
Website - Shantel Dailey
Marketing - Yolanda Graham Gaston
Charter Members - Barbara Yarber
Lelia Edwards



A message from our President—Joanne Powers

YOU ARE A GIFT!!!

In 2012, my son, Eric, was valedictorian of his class and in his speech he briefly mentioned my story with MS and the time I was in extreme pain and as I was crying uncontrollably I told him I felt like a burden. As I told him that he replied by saying that I was not a burden but I was a gift and God has a plan for me and for all no matter what the circumstances are. At that moment I didn't feel like it but only a burden, but since then (2010) I have truly begun understanding what he meant. During his speech, he used that statement to tell everyone in his class that they were all a gift and they should go out and share their gifts in this world no matter how small or how big. After listening to his entire speech, I then clearly understood what he meant.

We are all truly a gift and have many great things to share—at home, within our community, and even to the cancer population. Because we fall behind the scenes of patient care, we truly are not on the back line of this terrible disease. We are just as important as the doctors, pathologists, nurses, and all others who directly care for the patient. Our valuable, quality data that we submit each year helps researchers create another step forward to finding a cure or at least new ways to help patients live a longer and sometimes a better quality of life than in the past.

With the help of Lelia Edwards, she asked a few people why they like being a cancer registrar and here are a few of the responses she received.

“Being the pioneer for this organization and working in cancer data management for over 35 years, I feel that this is my gift. It has been a pleasure to get to know so many people in every area of the cancer program arena. I have seen so many changes and positive advances in the management of cancer care throughout the years, and I am very excited about the new innovations on the horizon.”

Lelia Edwards, MSHI, CTR, RHIT Cancer Registrar UAB Hospital

“Being a Cancer Registrar is a very rewarding career because we provide vital information that assists physicians and nurses and researchers with the information they need to improve the overall care of cancer patients. It is truly a gratifying experience to know that you have helped make someone's life a little better.”

Chammie Richey Katz, RHIT, CTR Cancer Registrar UAB Hospital

“Being a cancer registrar to me means aiding in the treatment of cancer and also helping to soon find a cure for the disease.”

LaRonda Reese, B.S. Cancer Registrar, UAB Hospital

As you can see the 3 people above feel how their gift is helping making a difference in the lives of patients. **Now we would like to hear why you like being a cancer registrar. Please submit your reply to Lelia Edwards and cc. to Joanne Powers.**

We are truly ALL a GIFT so please continue to share your gifts
at home, in your community, and within our profession.

Thank You!!!

ACRA 2014 Annual Educational Conference

SAVE THE DATE

October 2nd & 3rd, 2014

at Flowers Hospital

in Dothan, Alabama

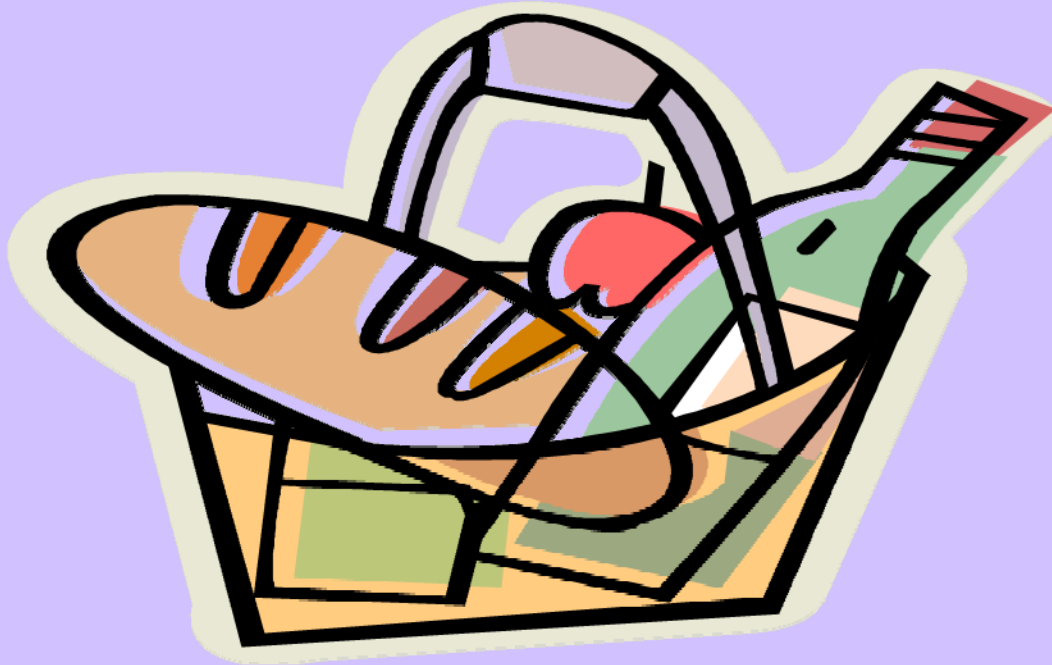
More information to come!

Sponsors/Exhibitors

If you know someone who is interested in helping sponsor the annual educational conference or would like to be an exhibitor at the meeting please contact Paula Wyatt at paula_wyatt@gadsdenregional.com or call her at 256-494-4466.

Pictorial Directory

A pictorial dictionary is being created for the ACRA. If you have not already had your picture taken or sent a picture into Joanne please do so as soon as possible. Please send to Joanne Powers at powerssj245@aol.com or text to her at 334-791-9584.



IT'S BASKET RAFFLE TIME AGAIN.

Please plan to contribute a basket from yourself or your company to help with fundraising for our association during the upcoming ACRA Fall Education Meeting, October 2-3, 2014. Also needed are lots of door prizes and goody bag items.

Contact Carol Kennemur at cgkennemur@stvhs.com for more information about how you can help.

Did you know the 1st official
ACRA meeting was held on

April 4, 1979?

Happy 35th birthday to our
ACRA!!



Old Pictures Wanted

If anyone has any old pictures or even more recent pictures please send them to Joanne Powers at powerssj245@aol.com or text them to her at 334-791-9584. Looking for the picture of the past presidents that was taken during the 30th Anniversary meeting in B'ham.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following 2 hospitals on achieving the Outstanding Achievement Award during their surveys in 2013

Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center	Anniston	AL
St. Vincent's East	Birmingham	AL

NCRA's 40th Annual Education Conference was held May 15th—18th, 2014 in Nashville, Tennessee at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center. More than 25 ACRA members attended the meeting. Pictured below are 20 of the ACRA members that attended.



2015 NCRA Educational Conference will be held May 20th-23rd at San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter in San Antonio, Texas

Hope to see many of you there!

Information and Reminders from ASCR

- A reminder to everyone that if you have documents (path reports, excel files, etc) containing patient identifying information that you would like to transmit to someone within ASCR, please transmit it via our secure online WebPlus system rather than sending it by email. Just let the recipient know that you have uploaded a file and we can retrieve it from there. If any of you have any questions about this process, please let me know and I will be happy to assist you.
- I know those of you that are working within a CoC facility are diligently fulfilling Standard 5.2 with Rapid Quality Reporting System (RQRS) participation. Please keep in mind that you will not submit those cases to ASCR until 6 months from date of diagnosis or date of first contact. This is done so we can capture the patients first course of treatment when the abstract is submitted. That will also assist us in keeping our case volume down and will keep you from having to constantly submit online data revision forms. Here is a link to the thread that addresses this in the CAnswer Forum:

<http://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums/showthread.php?9123-RQRS-cases&goto=newpost>. Please continue to follow your ASCR data submission reporting schedule.

<https://cancerstaging.org/cstage/about/news/Pages/Update-to-CS-02.05-Implementaion-Guide.aspx>

Here is a summary of the changes:

The review criteria for category 3c, AJCC Blank GI Nodes, were corrected. The changes do not affect which cases are listed for review, but they do change the message indicating why some cases were listed. Cases that would have been listed under category 3e, Other, will now be correctly indicated as reviewable for category 3c1 and 3c2 based on the coding of SSF 1 or 2. Only cases that staged successfully in v0204 but now result in ERROR are listed for review. Specific changes include:

1. The SSF included in the review criteria was corrected from SSF2 to SSF1 for some schemas.
2. Category 3c for AJCC 6 and AJCC 7 was split into 3c1 and 3c2, depending on which SSF is referenced.
3. Code 988 was removed from the review criteria.
4. NETStomach and SmallIntestine were added to the schemas for review under category 3c and Esophagus was deleted from one of the 3c categories.

TNM Training Series

We are pleased to announce an expansion of the free training and continuing education series in SEER*Educate. Over the next six weeks, fourteen TNM training modules will be released in SEER*Educate. Each of the following modules include 10 case scenarios with answers and rationales to help registrars learn how to assign TNM in vendor software packages.

- Bladder
- Breast
- Cervix and Endometrium
- Colorectal
- Esophagus, GE Junction and Stomach
- Head and Neck
- Kidney
- Lung
- Lymphoma
- Melanoma
- Ovary
- Pancreas and Biliary
- Prostate
- Testis

The **first three modules to be released on June 23rd** will be breast, colon and prostate. From now through July 31st at least two additional modules will be released weekly.

One of the best ways to learn cancer registry work is by doing cancer registry work. A primary goal of SEER*Educate is to provide access to free practical application exercises to learn how code and apply guidelines associated with various aspects of a registrar's responsibility. We will be applying to the National Cancer Registrars Association (NCRA) for continuing education credits for this entire series.

Sign up at **SEER*Educate** today by visiting <https://educate.fhcr.org/> and **Learn by Doing!**