

## “Your Key To The Future”

Volume 2008, Issue 1

Editor: Brenda Becker

### President’s Report—Cheryl Swearingen

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of our Board who have now moved on. It takes lots of extra time and effort to serve on the IAMSS Board. Special thanks to Rose Mary Hunt, Kathy Szary, Darcey Fairfield, Amy VanMannan and Pam Burlin for the great work they did during their terms.

Welcome to Jackie Buol, President-Elect, Crystal Harrington, Treasurer, and Brenda Becker and Natalie Brincks, Members at Large. Thank you for your willingness to step up and fill these positions.

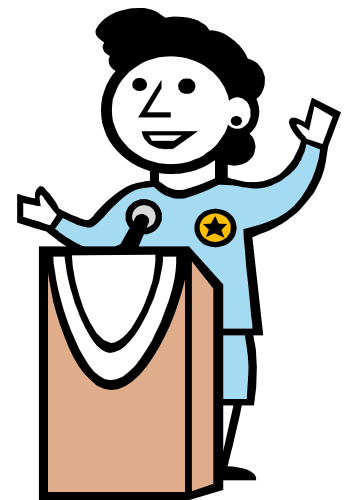
Over Valentine’s Day I flew to Palm Springs, California for the NAMSS Leadership Retreat. Two of the three days I was there were beautiful, in the 70’s and sunny. The third day, however, was the coldest day in Palm Springs’ history. They even had a few snow flakes! Those of us who were there from the eastern states couldn’t believe how the cold, frigid weather followed us!

The time spent with the NAMSS leadership and state presidents and president-elects was valuable. The first part of the conference was spent

in hearing all the NAMSS Committee Chairs give their reports. Then everyone in the room told who they were, where they were from, and a little about themselves. That was also very interesting. There were gals who had masters and PhD’s, and some who were medical staff professionals with several years of experience. There were marathon runners, and even a member of the US Marine Reserves (who is praying G.W. Bush doesn’t call her number before her term is up).

The rest of that day we spent in smaller groups talking about how to be better leaders, and tips on conference planning.

The second day we had a special speaker, Henry S. Givray, Chairman and CEO of SmithBucklin Corp. He talked about how leadership is defined by character, and reminded us of the leadership lessons we learned from Mom. He was excellent, and made us all feel very special for the jobs that we do each day. The rest of the conference was again spent in smaller groups talking about several other topics such as what you find most rewarding as a leader, marketing and strategic planning.



I appreciated the opportunity to attend the conference as there are always new things to learn, more ways to grow, and special people to meet.

There really wasn’t much said about the NAMSS Conference to be held in Milwaukee. The Wisconsin President was not in attendance. I have her contact information and will be in touch with her. I am sure they will welcome any assistance we are willing to give.

On behalf of the IAMSS Board, we look forward to another great year.



## Spring IAMSS Conference

Mark your calendars! The Spring IAMSS conference will be held Friday, April 4 at the Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames. Speakers will be **Shirley Jones**, Senior Policy Analyst from the National Practitioner Data Bank, who will lead a general discussion about the data bank, reporting, etc.

Additionally, **Kelly Clarke**, attorney with Baird Holm Law Firm, will discuss tail coverage, peer review files and hospital affiliation information. Lastly, **Pat McGill**, a nationally-known speaker, will provide a discussion on leadership, teambuilding, customer service, and change.

## Fall Conference

You won't want to miss this year's fall conference. It marks the 15-year anniversary of IAMSS! If any of you have any recollections that you would like to share, please e-mail them to Cheryl Swearingen at [CSwearingen@myrtuemedical.org](mailto:CSwearingen@myrtuemedical.org)

## JCAHO Hot Topics

Mercy North Ambulatory Surgery Center recently participated in a JCAHO survey. Following are some of the hot topics they focused on, as reported by Julie Cox:

- Review your verification process for Iowa license, State CSA and DEA.
- Know who signs references and verifications — the surveyor wanted to see peers on peer references, physicians on hospital references and program directors on verification of training.
- Know how your facility monitors sanctions — JCAHO prefers the OIG. ([www.exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/search.html](http://www.exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/search.html))
- If using the AMA profile, be prepared to answer what portions of the profile are considered primary source verification.
- Your providers must have at least two peer references at the time of reappointment.

If anyone is interested in additional topics discussed during this survey, feel free to contact Julie Cox at [jcox@mercydesmoines.org](mailto:jcox@mercydesmoines.org).

## NAMSS announces changes for Recertification for Dual Certificants

Beginning this year, individuals holding dual certification will be required to obtain **45 CE credits** (versus 30 previously required) for recertification, of which 25 must be NAMSS ap-

proved. Recertification cycles will remain the same; however, this requirement becomes effective the first recertification cycle in which an individual holds dual certification

the entire three-year period beginning in 2008. If you would like to learn more about the CPMSM and CPCS certifications, go to [namss.org](http://namss.org) and click on "certifications".



## 2008 IAMSS Board of Directors

President—Cheryl Swearingen, Myrtue Medical Center, Harlan, IA, (712) 755-4417, cswearingen@myrtuemedical.org

President Elect— Jacqueline Buol, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA (319) 384-9291, jacqueline-buol@uiowa.edu

Secretary—Julie Cox, CredentiaSource—Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines, IA (515) 643-0724, jcox@mercydesmoines.org

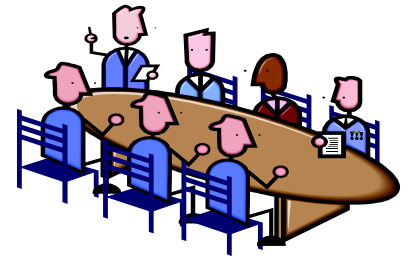
Treasurer— Crystal Harrington, Emergency Practice Associates, Waterloo, IA (319) 236-3858, charrington@epamidwest.com

Past President—Rose Mary Hunt, Regional Medical Center, Manchester, IA, (563) 927-7399, rhunt@regmedctr.org

Member at Large—(membership) - Tami Klein, Lakes Regional Healthcare, Spirit Lake, IA (712) 336-8793, tklein@lakeshealth.org

Member at Large—(website) - Natalie Brinks, Mercy Iowa City, Iowa City, IA (319) 339-3673, natalie.brinks@mercyic.org

Member at Large—(newsletter) - Brenda Becker, Pella Regional Health Center, Pella, IA, (641) 628-6658, bbecker@pellahealth.org



## New Web Site—Iowa Board of Medicine

Have you seen the Iowa Board of Medicine's new website? Go to [www.medicalboard.iowa.gov](http://www.medicalboard.iowa.gov) and take a look. The Board of Medicine has recently updated their website. The site was improved to provide better information and easier ways to find the information you are looking for.

DocFinder has been renamed to Find a Physician. The licensure application and verification forms have also been revised. These forms can be completed using your computer.

---

*"The greatest accomplishment is not in NEVER FAILING, but in RISING AGAIN after you fall."*  
-Vince Lombardi

---

## Member Retires

Pat Stickney recently retired from St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids. She was a member of IAMSS from its inception in 1993 and worked at St. Lukes for 33 years. IAMSS sent her a plant for her retirement party. Here is the thank you she sent us: "Thank you very much for the lovely plant

sent to me upon my retirement from St. Luke's Hospital. I've enjoyed being a member of IAMSS and the association with such wonderful people." Best regards, Pat Stickney



## New from NAMSS!

Office Administration and Management – Available Online:

An innovative online course on Office Administration and Management is now available. This course covers medical services management, office information management, written communications, medical staff committee meetings, and confidentiality and ethics. Go to [www.namss.org](http://www.namss.org) to find out more information.

## Kudos to Kathy Szary and the ICC

*Kathy Szary and the ICC (Iowa Credentialing Coalition) were recently spotlighted in Briefings on Credentialing for their work on the Iowa Universal Application. In part, the article states, “The Iowa Association of Medical Staff Services decided in 2000 that it wanted to be proactive and develop a standard medical staff application for initial appointment . . . At the same time, other groups in Iowa were looking at ways to streamline credentialing processes. Kathy Szary, medical staff services coordinator at Grinnell (IA) Regional Medical Center, was one of three IAMSS members who cochaired a task force to develop the application . . . By 2001, the task force had evolved into the ICC, finalized the application, and made it available . . .”*

*Congratulations Kathy and all members of the ICC for your work and well-deserved recognition in this outstanding achievement!*

## Doctor’s Day—March 30, 2008

Don’t forget the people who give us a reason to come to work every day! National Doctors’ Day provides a time for people to show appreciation to the doctors who care for them or their loved ones. Both patients and those who work for or with physicians may recognize, thank or show appreciation by giving cards, notes, commemorative tokens of remembrance, etc. The first National Doctors’ Day was on March 30, 1933, the anniversary of the first use of anesthesia. The day was celebrated by mailing cards to doctors and by placing flowers on the graves of deceased doctors. In 1990, then-President George Bush signed a resolution designating March 30 as National Doctors’ Day.

## NAMSS 32nd Annual Conference & Exhibition

The 32nd Annual NAMSS Conference & Exhibition will be held at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center beginning Saturday, October 11 and running through Wednesday, October 15. Because of our close proximity, watch for information coming soon about volunteer opportunities for IAMSS members.

## STATE WEBSITE INFORMATION FOR EDGE-U-CATE’S CREDENTIALING SCHOOL

**EDGE-U-CATE, LLC** announces the first ever **CREDENTIALING SCHOOL** for entry-level credentialers and credentialers who have been functioning with minimal training. If you or someone in your department could benefit from this intensive, 5-day certificate program, go to [www.Edge-U-Cate.com](http://www.Edge-U-Cate.com) for additional information and registration or call (719) 574-6016.