



# The Scribe

Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity - Washington  
Volume 2, Issue 1  
May/June 2009

## Welcome to the Spring/Summer Issue

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#### *Introduction by Carrie McComb, CMT, AHDI-F*

Your previous Delegate, PJ James was unable to complete her 2-year term as your Delegate, and since I had previous experience as your Delegate, it only made sense for me to step in and complete PJ's term of office. She has done a fabulous job in 2008, so I have big shoes to fill.

For those of you who don't know me, I have been an active member of AHDI since 1982, and active in AHDI-WA since its formation in 1985. I have been working in the healthcare field in various positions since 1957, and as a transcriptionist since 1964. I have seen many, many dramatic changes in the way we produce documents – from my first report on a Royal manual typewriter, through various forms of electronic typewriters, and now to the computer. My current position as “Quality Tools Administrator” is allowing me to provide tools to assist the MT with production of high quality healthcare documentation. We have come a very long way in this electronic world of documentation, and where we will be tomorrow is anyone's guess.

The 2009 Advocacy Summit is right around the corner - June 2-4, 2009 in Washington DC. The Summit cannot be a success without the participation of you, the member! Now is an especially important and opportune time for the members of Washington State to make an impact in Washington, DC. Legislators have never been more concerned about health IT issues, as evidenced by the recent passage of the HITECH Act (Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act). MTs must promote the value they bring to EHR adoption and health IT to ensure the future success of our profession and industry. Please review the HITECH Act information at the AHDI-WA website for a better understanding of this HITECH Act. That information will make it very clear why I need your help to write letters to your Senators and Legislators. <http://www.ahdionline.org/ca/ahdi-wa/member/delegate.html>

I will be leaving Seattle on May 31st, so we don't have a lot of time for this letter writing project. An important point to remember about your letters: Make sure your letters have your complete contact information including telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. Your Senators and Legislators may want to contact you as their constituent to discuss the future of medical transcription.

I will be anxiously watching my e-mail inbox and my mailbox for your letters. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if I can do anything to assist you. My contact information:

Carrie A. McComb, CMT  
AHDI-WA Delegate  
11532 SE 321st Place  
Auburn, WA 98092  
253-333-6378  
Email: [cmccomb@Q.com](mailto:cmccomb@Q.com)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 2 to 4, 2009                      AHDI/MTIA Advocacy Summit, Washington, DC
- July 29 to August 1, 2009          AHDI Annual Convention and Expo, Nashville, TN
- September 26, 2009                  AHDI-WA Annual Convention, Bellingham Golf & Country Club, Bellingham, WA

### *President's Notation*


In our attempt to be fiscally responsible during this time we have shortened this edition of *The Scribe* and sent it out electronically. As things improve we hope to have a hard copy of the newsletter out for a fall/winter edition.

Carrie is well underway in her plans to attend the Advocacy Summit as a representative for AHDI-WA and we have included information here and on the website to help her out by writing letters to your representative and/or senator.

In the last few weeks we have finalized details for the annual convention in September. In an effort to streamline things, we decided to drop the half-day session on Sunday. This year the convention is to be held in Bellingham, Washington at the Bellingham Golf & Country Club. Please see the registration form for further details.

It is also that time of year that we look to the future of AHDI-WA by opening up nominations for Board of Directors to hold office from 2010 to 2012. Do you have the ambition and drive to stay on the top? Do you find legislative issues fun and exciting? To nominate yourself or someone else for a position, please contact Stephanie Clemens at [S.Clemens4@yahoo.com](mailto:S.Clemens4@yahoo.com) for a full job description of what each Board of Directors position entails, please feel free to contact Stephanie at the above e-mail address or myself at [AHDIWAPresident@yahoo.com](mailto:AHDIWAPresident@yahoo.com). Nominations need to be completed by September 12, 2009 to be included on the ballot.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Nashville and at the annual convention in September. Have a wonderful summer, and don't forget to send in those letters!



*The Scribe*  
Staff and Contributors

**EDITOR:**

Stephanie Clemens

**LAYOUT, PROOFREADER & ASSISTANT EDITOR**

Janice Niemi

**CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE**

Stephanie Clemens

Janice Niemi

Carrie McComb, CMT, AHDI-F

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AHDI-WA members

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All other correspondence, including requests for permission to copy, please address to Editor, *The Scribe*, c/o Stephanie Clemens, 4400 Ocean Beach Highway #15, Longview, WA 98632; or e-mail at [ahdiwanewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:ahdiwanewsletter@yahoo.com)

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