



President: Lynette M. Shipp, CMT, AHDI-F

Born and raised in Arkansas, Lynette has lived in Searcy since 2001 with her husband, David, and their youngest daughter who is a graduate student at Harding University. Her son and daughter-in-law recently moved from Searcy to be closer to Little Rock where he attends UALR and she attends pharmacy school at UAMS. Another daughter lives in Searcy and shares a common HIM career interest with Lynette, working from home as a certified coder.

Lynette began her career as an MT in January of 1979 for a Little Rock cardiologist. That position evolved over the next 25 years to transcription supervisor for 24 physicians with 12 MTs. She has also worked as an independent contractor with experience in cardiology, ophthalmology, family practice, acute care, and medical depositions. Since 2004, she has been employed as a home-based transcriptionist for an acute care hospital, currently a member of the HIM team at UAMS.

Lynette first joined AHDI (formerly AAMT) in 1999. Lynette passed the certification exam and achieved her CMT credential in November of 2003. In 2005, she became a Fellow of AHDI. She has served as Arkansas' delegate to the 2004 AHDI House of Delegates in Atlanta and 2005 in Honolulu. She also served an additional two-year term as Arkansas Delegate during 2006 and 2007. She serves as newsletter editor for the Arkansas Association as well as having served on the State Symposium planning committee since 2004. Lynette has participated in AHDI's e-mentoring program, has served on the 2005 HOD Minutes Approval Committee, and has served on AHDI's Ethics Committee. At the 2008 AAHDI State Symposium in Pine Bluff, AHDI Director and Board Partner Barb Marques presented Lynette with a pin designating her help in "carrying the torch" for AAHDI.

"I appreciate our Arkansas Association for the friendships, professional growth, and education it has given me. Being a member means more than just paying dues or keeping up a credential. It is an opportunity to learn, not just about the industry and technology, but from people who have the same challenges as I do. I recently read that 'you get out of a professional association what you put into it -- and the sky's the limit.' So true! I encourage all MTs to become involved with what's happening on a local, state, and national scale in our profession and to experience the benefits of a network with our peers."



Vice President: Serelda Johnson

Serelda was born and raised in Texas but moved to Rogers, Arkansas, in 1992 with her husband and four children. She lived in Rogers for four years and then moved back to Texas in 1996 to help care for her elderly mother-in-law.

While living in Texas, Serelda went back to college and earned her associate's degree in Health Information Technology. She began working in a physician's office as a coder and, a few years later, she began teaching as an adjunct instructor for Coastal Bend College. This experience allowed Serelda to discover that she loved teaching.

Always knowing that Serelda and her husband wanted to live in Arkansas again, they moved to Russellville in 2001 where she continued her education at Arkansas Tech University and received her bachelor's degree in Health Information Management in 2003. Serelda began teaching as an adjunct instructor for the Business Medical Program for ATU-Ozark in 2004 and became a full-time instructor in 2006.

Serelda began bringing students for the AAHDI State Symposium in 2005 and really appreciates how our Arkansas Association welcomes her students and allows them to learn more about the career they have chosen as well as having the opportunity to network with people who have been in the industry for years. She continues to encourage her students to become involved with AAHDI, not just while they are in school but to stay involved as they begin their careers.

Secretary: Darla Huett

Darla was born and raised in Arkansas and lives in Little Rock with her youngest daughter, Briana, who is a senior at Parkview Liberal Arts and Science Magnet High School. Her oldest daughter, Jessica, is a sophomore at New York University, majoring in Media and Communications.

Darla began her career as an MT in 2005 and has been with eMedDox since 2006 -- first as an independent contractor MT, then as the Office Administrator beginning in 2007. Currently, she is the Operations/Office Administrator for eMedDox.

Darla first joined AHDI in 2008 and has volunteered at several Military Spouse Initiative events.

"I love being an MT and the freedom and flexibility it offers for my family. I especially enjoy helping with the Military Spouse Initiative events because I really believe this career is perfect for military families -- no more stress of looking for a job when your military spouse is relocated!"



Treasurer: Ellen T. Outlaw, CMT

Ellen is a medical transcriptionist with a total of 37 years experience. Her career began at the VA Hospital in Little Rock, Arkansas. She worked there three years until her husband was transferred to El Dorado, Arkansas, where Ellen worked for two years at the hospital doing medical and radiology transcription. They were then transferred to Macon, Georgia, where she worked at a hospital for two years before transferring to Memphis, Tennessee, and working for a transcription service for a year and a half. They were then transferred back to Little Rock where Ellen has been with the Baptist Health Medical System in Little Rock for 28 years as a medical and radiology transcriptionist and QA analyst until recently.

Ellen has been a member of AHDI (formerly AAMT) since 1981. She has served in the offices of Secretary and Treasurer of the past Central Arkansas Chapter as well as serving for many years as Treasurer of the Arkansas state association of AHDI. Ellen also maintains her credential as a CMT.

Ellen lives in Little Rock, is divorced, and has a daughter, son, daughter-in-law, and a wonderful new grandson. She also enjoys her dog and two cats. Ellen's favorite things to do include attending country music concerts and playing on her computer.



Delegate: Betty A. Polm, CMT, AHDI-F

Betty was one of three people who started the State Association in Arkansas. She served as the first Secretary and went on to hold office several times as President, Vice President, and Delegate and worked on various committees. She received CMT recognition by exam many years ago and became a Fellow of AHDI a few years ago.

After her children grew up, she took a course in medical transcription at a school in Sacramento, California. She started her career at the Riverview Medical Center and then worked at St. Vincent Infirmary in Little Rock for 23 years. Betty retired from SVI in 2006. She is now working part time for RAPA at home, serving as Vice President of Brady Home Extension Club, and is in charge of the sewing projects going to the New Outlook program at SVI. The oncology patients enjoy getting free sleep caps, tie hats, and mastectomy pillows. Her interests include church, family, reading, and cooking. She became a great-grandmother last June.

She is still a member of AAHDI, having changed to Sustaining Member after retirement but going back to full membership because of working part time. Betty is a firm believer in being part of a professional association and working to make it the best it can be.



Alternate Delegate: Lisa A. Grigg

Lisa was born in Camden, Arkansas, and lived in Camden and Illinois as a child, finishing high school in Camden. She has a Bachelor of Music degree from Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia and a Master of Public Administration degree from UALR. She worked for six years as an MT at Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock where she lived for 18 years. She now lives in Pine Bluff with her husband Don. She has worked as an independent contractor MT for the past eleven years. Don works as an aide to Congressman Mike Ross, handling all the military and veteran constituent issues. Lisa has been an active member of Therapy Dogs International with her dog Scout for ten years, bringing cheer to area nursing homes. She is also a member of First Baptist Church of Pine Bluff and the Jefferson County Humane Society.