

# News & Views

November 2014

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## President's Message

I just want to start by telling each of you Happy Thanksgiving! As we enter this upcoming holiday season I think back over this past year and try to count my blessings and think of things that I am thankful for. I want to encourage each of you to do the same, find something to be thankful for. We all have so much and are blessed in so many ways.

As I recall events of this past year, I think of all the friendships I have been blessed with through NHIMA. You all mean so much to me and each of you have so many great talents. I thank you for sharing yourself and talent with NHIMA through volunteering and serving. It is important. I think of all the opportunities that have come my way through my membership in NHIMA and AHIMA as well.

On my recent trip to San Diego to the national convention I was fortunate to run into a couple of friends from far places that I hadn't seen for many years, but friends we still are. I think of all the great HIM people I've had the opportunity to meet from the national office. Great people, great minds and always, always willing to assist in whatever you might be working on. They also are friends for life. I can't help thinking of all the traveling that I have gotten to do through NHIMA from one coast to the other and many places in between, all filled with great memories of time spent laughing, learning, eating and yes, even running through airports with lots of very special people.

So as we get ready to come together with family and friends around a Thanksgiving meal, remember how blessed we are to be in health information management and how important a role we have, especially in these transitional years toward electronic health records. Try to recall all of the opportunities we have had because of our profession and know that because of our experiences and our knowledge base healthcare is a better place. Again, Happy Thanksgiving!

*Shirley Carmichael, NHIMA President*



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## 2014 AHIMA Convention Highlights

AHIMA Convention Day 2 General Session Recap:

Day Two AHIMA convention general sessions were very informative. The Federal Update was given by Judy Murphy, Chief Nursing Officer at the ONC. Ms. Murphy was a very engaging speaker and gave us some new insights on challenges and barriers to overcome to achieve more widespread use of Health Information Technology.

Next on the agenda was a presentation on "AHIMA Leading the Adoption of Information Governance for Healthcare" by Deborah K. Green and Galina Datzkovsky. As you know, information governance (IG) is a very "hot" topic these days. We were introduced to the concept of the "healthcare eco-system". There are many great resources including a newly published white paper on IG. Please visit the AHIMA website for additional information on information governance: <http://www.ahima.org/topics/infogovernance>

Following the IG presentation we were treated to an exceptional round table discussion on the future of HIM and how various organizations are working collaboratively to further "Health Intelligence" (HI). The panel was moderated by AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon. Participating in the discussion were Russell P Branzell from the College of Healthcare Information Executives (CHIME), Ann Blouin, Executive VP of The Joint Commission and Joseph Fifer, President and CEO of the Healthcare Financial Management Association. The focus of the discussion was the importance of working collaboratively towards HI, instead of everyone re-inventing the wheel—"plagiarism is SKILL, not a crime".

Jeff Arnold, Chairman and CEO of Sharecare completed the morning general session agenda. As we know, digital engagement of patients will be a key in moving quality healthcare forward. Mr. Arnold shared numerous Apps that allow for all kinds of patient/provider interaction that promote health and wellness.

I felt that the convention had great key note speakers with some very innovative and thought provoking ideas.

*By Christine Lee, MHA, RHIA, CCS, CPC*

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**NHIMA Contact Information:**

Board Members - Committee/TF Chairs

**Dates to Remember:**

April 22-24, 2015 – NHIMA Annual Convention, Kearney, NE

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**Let's try again...**

**ICD-10-CM/PCS coder education**

**TENTATIVE dates and locations** have been set for ICD-10-CM/PCS coder education:

**May 13-15, 2015** – Hampton Inn Conference Center, Scottsbluff

**June 8-10, 2015** – Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln

**June 24-26, 2015** – Holiday Inn Express, Norfolk

**July 8-10, 2015** – Holiday Inn & Convention Center, Kearney

Stay tuned for further updates from NHA and NHIMA.

