



# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

Volume 23, Issue 4

December 2008

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### MAHDI 2009 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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### Urgent! Call for Nominees!

AHDI has announced a new program to recognize members who have impacted the mission, goals, and objectives of the association – the AHDI Hall of Fame. Michigan is full of just such members – members who have been around since the beginning of AHDI (or AAMT); who have held multiple offices locally, statewide, and nationally (often at the same time); who have been instrumental in sharing the mission, goals, and objectives of our national organization.

Each year AHDI will award Hall of Fame status to 12 members. Winners will be announced at the annual convention and featured in publications throughout the year. Of those 12 Hall of Fame winners, the AHDI Member of the Year will be selected.

Please consider nominating someone here in Michigan for this honor. Nominees must be an individual professional member of AHDI with a minimum of 3 years' consecutive membership history. Nominees must have demonstrated a consistent commitment to the association and its objectives. Nominees must be someone for whom the nomination year represents a period of unique high-impact contribution to the association in some way. Sound like someone you know?! Because time is of the essence, please email me right away at [sheila.guston@spectrum-health.org](mailto:sheila.guston@spectrum-health.org) with the name of someone who fits the bill. MAHDI Board of Directors will meet on January 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss the nominees and to select one member to submit to national for this honor. Simply email me the name of the person you'd like to nominate and a brief description of why. If that person is selected by the Board, we will be in touch for further details to fill out the application with. Some additional things to consider when thinking of nominees:

- National Leadership/Service History (committees, task forces, executive leadership, published works, and presentation experience)
- State/Regional Leadership/Service History (committees, task forces, alliances, component offices)
- Local/Institutional Leadership/Service History (committees, task forces, alliances, component offices)
- What initiative or program has the nominee been instrumental in promoting during the nomination year that uniquely qualifies her for Hall of Fame consideration?
- Describe the leadership qualifications and characteristics of the nominee that distinguish her from others

Please submit your nomination by January 1 to be included in the selection process. Michigan has some incredibly outstanding members who deserve to be recognized!

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

Before I close, I want to thank Kathy Dominguez, CMT, AHDI-F, for all of her efforts in organizing our state meeting. This is a year-long process, and Kathy truly went above and beyond. As always, there are lessons learned (i.e. don't trust menu descriptions!); but, overall, the meeting was an overwhelming success. It is wonderful to see so many Michigan (and Ohio and Canadian) members come together. I am already looking forward to seeing all of you again in Grand Rapids the weekend of October 9, 10 and 11, 2009!

We also have two chapters merging as we go into the 2009. Due to a lack of officers, Bay Area Chapter will be merging with Mid Michigan Chapter. These chapters have worked together to come up with the best solution for all. It is never easy to see a chapter fold after all of the hard work that went into creating it and maintaining it for so long, but it is not easy to find people to volunteer as officers. Thank you to all those involved in making this as smooth a transition as possible.

It is so hard to believe my year as president is already coming to a close. Time has certainly flown. I began this journey two years ago really very new to all of this. I must say I go into my third and final year a much more informed and confident member of MAHDI. Thank you for all the support you have shown me over the past couple of years. It continues to be a pleasure to work for and with all of you.

Sheila Guston, CMT  
2008 MAHDI President



## CONGRATULATIONS -- MAHDI BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009

Kathy Dominquez, CMT, AHDI-F, President; Liz Aschwege, CMT, AHDI-F, President-Elect; Sheila Guston, CMT, Immediate Past President; Peggy Smith, CMT, Secretary; Kathy Laidler, CMT, AHDI-F, Treasurer; and Dianna Hall, CMT, AHDI-F, Delegate.

## LOOK FOR ONE OF OUR OWN IN THE ADVANCE PUBLICATION

(Jaime is the 2009 President of the West Michigan Chapter, too!!!)

Jaimie LeQuire is featured in the December 1, 2008 Advance Publication in the article "30 under 30 – these HIM professionals explain how they got into the industry, why they love it, and what's in store for the future". "The article as printed:

*How did you get involved in HIM and what made you interested in the profession?* A friend of mine had been doing medical transcription for years and loved it. I researched the field for 2 years, but what ultimately got me into it was having my first child and knowing that working from home and flexibility are available.

*What is the one accomplishment you are most proud of so far?* I am proud of the fact that I completed school with a 2-year-old, pregnant, and then a newborn. It took me over 2 years to complete my course, but I did it and found a great job.

*Where do you see the profession being in 10 years?* I think speech recognition will be common practice. I also see this profession becoming more popular among job seekers because the health care field is a stable industry.

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

## NEWS AROUND THE STATE

### MAHDI 2009 CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

#### Huron River Chapter

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#### AHDI Board Partner

Ava George  
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**Bay Area Chapter** - Since our last update, we initiated the process to nominate and elect chapter officers for 2009 and found that we did not have available leadership, specifically a president, to run the chapter in 2009. Therefore, we pursued merger with Mid-Michigan Chapter of AHDI. A majority of BAC members as well as a majority of MMC members voted favorably for this. Approval was sought from the CAST Committee of AHDI and received, so BAC will officially be merging with MMC as of January 2009. We will have a final chapter Christmas dinner on Tuesday, 12/16/08 in Saginaw. I would like to thank Dianna Hall and the many officers over the years who have made it possible to have a local chapter in the Bay Area for these many years. We are not really going away, we will just be merging our resources and continuing to make an impact in this area alongside our MMC partners. We look forward to the Spring Fling in Frankenmuth 3/7/09. The only remaining previously scheduled event by BAC that will occur in 2009 is an **RMT and/or CMT Study Group** on 1/10/09, 1/17/09, 3/14/09 and 3/21/09. The James E. Wickson Memorial Library, 359 S. Franklin St., Frankenmuth is reserved for these dates for the purpose of holding an RMT and/or CMT study group to meet from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. on those dates, with independent study in the interim. No candidates have signed up so far. The only cost is to purchase the AAMT RMT Review Guide (about \$60) or the AAMT CMT Review Guide (about \$70). For questions or to register, please contact Cora Clement, CMT at (989) 683-2058 or [kclement56923@yahoo.com](mailto:kclement56923@yahoo.com) ASAP. A very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year to all.

*Cora Clement, CMT  
2008 Bay Area Chapter AHDI President.*

**Huron River Chapter** - HRC had a successful Student Day with about 30 attendees and recruited 3 new members. HRC was represented well at the MAHDI Annual Meeting in Flint; the entire board attended as did many members. Our newsletter is ready for distribution, and our election process is currently underway. We have a full ballot, and voting is taking place. We have 38 members

and are beginning our planning process for next year with dates selected for all our meetings.

*April Martin, RHIT, CMT, AHDI-F  
President, HRC*

**Mid-Michigan Chapter** - The Mid-Michigan Chapter had lots of fun hosting this year's MAHDI State Convention on October 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in Flint, Michigan. Dr. Richard Lederer was entertaining and signed many of his books during the meeting. We had wonderful vendors and speakers, and it was a great time to catch up with old friends and make new ones. We installed our MMC 2009 Officers in Frankenmuth at our Annual Christmas Dinner Meeting on 12/5/08. Dianna Hall, CMT, AHDI-F performed the installation. Officers are President, Kathleen Dominguez, CMT, AHDI-F; Vice President/Secretary, Victoria Church; Treasurer, Ann Schutt. The Bay Area Chapter has voted to merge with the Mid-Michigan Chapter. We are currently working together on completion of the merger. MMC is happy to welcome the previous BAC Members to the MMC family. We currently have 50 members. Thanks to everyone who helped the Mid-Michigan Chapter at the State Meeting. It was a smashing success!

*Kathy Laidler, CMT, AHDI-F  
MMC Chapter Representative*

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

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**West Michigan Chapter** – We currently have 35 to 37 members. We now have a newsletter editor – Rebecca Carrier has volunteered to take on this responsibility for us. We held our elections in November; and Kara Hillard was elected President Elect, Trish Wood was elected Secretary, and Sharon Gustafson was elected Treasurer. Our spring symposium is 4/18/09. We have a board of director’s meeting on 12/13/08 and will be setting the dates for our meetings in 2009. This year’s September and November educational meetings had good turnouts with approximately 25 to 30 people at each meeting.

*Michelle Gooden*  
*WMC President*



## TREASURER’S REPORT -DECEMBER 2008

1/1/2008 through 11/28/2008

Income:	\$ 13,580.00
Expenses:	\$ 13,248.05
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 331.95</b>

## DELEGATE’S REPORT December 6, 2008

ISSUE: This came from the last HOD town hall webinar when we were discussing the proposed bylaws change to allow a person to become a postgraduate member who had not been a student member. Since AHDI is no longer “MT only” and covers all aspects of “healthcare documentation” our current bylaw regarding those eligible to become a student or postgraduate member is not appropriate. The suggested wording reflects the change in purpose of the Association that was passed by the HOD in 2006.

Current wording:

Section 2, Qualifications, Rights, and Privileges of Membership

(b) Student Membership: **Any person who is studying to become a medical transcriptionist and who is not paid to do medical transcription,**

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

(c) Postgraduate Membership: **Any student who is verified as having graduated from a medical transcription course within the last 3 months....**

Suggested wording:

Article IV Membership Section 2. Qualifications, Rights, and Privileges of Membership

(b) Student Membership: **Any person who is studying healthcare documentation and who is not paid to work in healthcare documentation.....**

(c) Postgraduate Membership: **Any person who is verified as having graduated from a healthcare documentation course within the last 3 months.....**

This passed the HOD and will be changed

ISSUE: Currently, the AHDI bylaws prohibit a person from serving as an officer in more than one chapter; however, there is no stipulation preventing a person from serving in multiple state/regional associations. Also, there is no restriction in the bylaws about a person being able to be an office in both a state/regional and a chapter at the same time. Particularly with the office of secretary, VP, and treasurer, people who have an interest in keeping chapters viable should be allowed to work toward maintaining the chapter as well as growth. We all realize that we would love to bring new people on board, to get more people involved; however, that may not always be the case. There may be people who would be able to belong to more than one chapter and actually wish to be an officer in more than one chapter if the need arose.

Article XV Local Chapters Section 4. Officers and Committee Members

**(b) No member may hold office in more than (1) Local Chapter at a time.**

To be revised to: (b) to be deleted

This passed the HOD and will be changed

The bylaws change regarding Section 4, Expulsion and Other Sanctions passed the HOD after some discussion.

Rationale: We expect members and certificants to engage in high-integrity behavior in all aspects of professional life including credentials. The existing bylaw did not include CMTs and RMTs who were nonmembers. Revocation of RMT or CMT credentials could be in order, for example, if a person wrote down exam questions after taking the test and shared them with others, thereby compromising AHDI's credentialing exam.

This passed the HOD and will be amended in the bylaws.

## RESOLUTIONS TO THE AHDI HOUSE OF DELEGATES:

Be it resolved that state/regional associations be given "guardianship" over the local chapters within their geographic boundaries.

ISSUE: Currently state/regional associations have no "authority" to oversee the local chapters within their boundaries; however, the state/regional association could often provide their local chapters with much needed support and guidance related to compliance requirements, membership, and leadership. This new alignment of local chapters under state/regional associations would give both the opportunity and responsibility to the state/regional association for assisting their local chapter(s), and it will strengthen their mutual backbone for success.

Background: This topic was discussed by the Sustained Structure Task Force members.

HOD voted to allow state/regional associations to track the compliance of the local associations within their state/region, have "guardianship" over the local associations. This will be a direct bylaws change.

## DELEGATE VOTING

Be it resolved that the delegate will be a voting member of the state/regional/web-based association's board of directors and executive board/committee.

ISSUE: Although many associations have structured their delegate as a voting member of their board of directors, this is currently left up to the discretion of the individual association.

Background: Within the past few years, we have asked significantly more from those serving as a delegate, especially regarding areas of communication and accountability. The delegate serves as an information conduit between the national

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

association and the state associations. Having not only a voice but a vote on the board is a necessity if the delegate is to perform his/her job duties to the fullest.

The HOD passed this bylaws change.

## RESOLUTIONS SENT TO THE HOUSE BY THE SUSTAINED STRUCTURE TASK FORCE

Required Initiative: Be it resolved that components be required to support at least one AHDI initiative.

ISSUE: Currently, there is no requirement that a component of AHDI actively support the goals of the Association.

Background: It is the feeling of the SSTF that each component should assist in moving forward the goals of the Association by choosing at least one AHDI Initiative as defined by the AHDI Board of Directors to support. This initiative would be chosen by the component.

The HOD passed this bylaws change

Be it resolved that an educational chapter shall have the right to limit officer candidates to students and/or postgraduate members.

ISSUE: Currently, we have 2 educational chapters with more in the offing. Both of our current chapters have expressed a desire to limit the office positions to student members (and possibly postgraduates) during the drafting of their bylaws. The national bylaws do not allow this type of restriction.

Background and supporting data: A primary goal of an educational chapter is to allow students to step into roles designed to hone their leadership skills. These chapters are often headed by students with staff/instructors (and possibly postgraduates) serving in mentoring roles. Unfortunately, the governance of these components cannot be structured to only allow a student (or postgraduate) member to hold office since there would be a conflict with the national bylaws.

The HOD passed.

## SUSTAINABLE STRUCTURE TASK FORCE

This was set up as a means to work on goals for those wishing to abandon state organizations and pool into a regional formation. Currently, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Utah members have voted to join with AHDI-West. Members in 3 neighboring states are currently voting to decide if Nevada, Arizona, and Hawaii will become a part of AHDI-West. Local chapters within the states can choose to participate with AHDI-West as a satellite ambassador with less governance structure, no bylaws, and no officers, just an ambassador sent to the Regional's BOD meetings, or stay as a traditional local chapter. They will hold their first ever conference March 20-22 and will have an Advocacy Day March 19, 2009.

SSTF presented to the HOD

1. Satellite representative should be nonvoting member of the State/Regional, web-based board.
2. Satellite requires (1) initiative.
3. Local requires chapter representative.
4. Local requires 1 initiative.
5. Local representative sits on S/R board as a voting member.
6. State/Regional should track the compliance of the local associations within their state/region.
7. State/Regional should have "guardianship" over the local associations.

HOD voted to accept this for the Regional organizations.

## MEMBERSHIP/BENEFITS TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Electronic membership has not been a successful membership level in the 2-year run. The task force recommends that we eliminate electronic membership at the end of current membership levels.

KB Membership at the electronic level is the best way the task force saw to provide the right level of membership and add electronic Plexus into this category. It is impossible to include students. Students are identified through their KB application process and will receive all student-specific email notifications available to those in the non-KB membership category.

Corporate membership level increases the number of copies of Plexus and Matrix from 2 to 4.

Both Corporate and Educational members will include an extended discount for webinars to encourage more participation. Sustaining member category was reviewed. It was felt that this member level should receive Plexus, but that Matrix will no longer be provided.

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

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None of this can take effect until Spring 2009 with fully implemented management software, Personify.

AHDI/MTIA Advocacy Summit June 2-4, 2009

Holiday Inn, Arlington, Virginia

Cost: \$159 night plus tax

20 minutes from DC

Free shuttle or 3-block walk to metro

Close to airport

Cost to members \$40, nonmembers \$45

Orientation Tuesday night

Group tour of DC (separate ticket)

Two full days to advocate

GOALS: All 50 states represented -- work closely with AHDI on-line association, state component leaders, and MTIA members.

## MEMBERSHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL

- ✚ To canvas junior high and high school career fairs, vocational counselors make students aware of our progression.
- ✚ Contact military spouse groups for appointments about our profession and the mobility it offers, using the military spouse kit that has been established by AHDI.
- ✚ Contact hospitals and clinics that have MTS that may not be aware of our association and the benefits
- ✚ Contact MTSO that are not affiliated with AHDI
- ✚ Contact all AHDI-approved schools that do not offer student membership in their tuition to see if they would consider doing so and forming an educational chapter of AHDI.
- ✚ Contact schools to include student membership in their enrollment to see what we can do to get students active and encouraged in maintaining their student membership after graduation.

*Dianna Hall, CMT, AHDI-F  
MAHDI Delegate*



*A Sincere Thank You*

*To the members of the Mid-Michigan Chapter for their support and participation in hosting the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual MAHDI Meeting*

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

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## MAHDI 2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

### January

- 10 MAHDI BOD Meeting
- 28 HRC Educational BOD (wine/cheese)

### February

- 15 Newsletter Deadline
- 29 Newsletter Release Date

### March

- 7 MMC Spring Fling
- 14 HRC Spring Symposium
- 27-28 MAHDI BOD Site Visits

### April

- 18 WMC Spring Symposium

### May

- 2 MAHDI BOD Meeting
- 15 Newsletter Deadline
- 13-15 MHIMA Convention – Soaring Eagle
- 18-24 National Medical Transcription Week
- 20 HRC Education/Networking BOD
- 29 Newsletter Release Date

### June

- 2-4 AHDI/MTIA Advocacy Event

### July

- 10 Newsletter Deadline
- 18 MAHDI BOD Meeting
- 24 Newsletter Release Date
- 29-8/1 NATIONAL MEETING (Nashville, TN)

### August

- 7 Newsletter Registration Deadline
- 21 Newsletter Registration Release Date
- 28 Newsletter Ballot Deadline

### September

- 4 Newsletter Ballot Release Date
- 12 MMC Student Appreciation
- 19 HRC Student Appreciation
- 19 WMC Educational Meeting

### October

- 2 Special Edition Newsletter Deadline
- 9 MAHDI BOD Meeting
- 9-10 MAHDI Annual Meeting (Grand Rapids)

### November

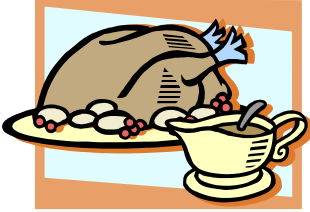
- 7 HRC Technology Meeting
- 7 WMC Educational Meeting

### December

- 4 MMC Installation
- 4 Newsletter Deadline
- 5 MAHDI BOD Meeting
- 9 HRC BOD Meeting
- 18 Newsletter Release Date

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

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## TURKEY SURGERY

I was having trouble getting to sleep after a long day of transcribing. Planning for the coming holiday season wasn't helping me relax, but finally I drifted off. I began to dream, and in my dream I was in my kitchen. The favorite Christmas carol of all transcriptionists, "Do You Hear What I Hear?" was playing on the kitchen radio. I began to prepare our Christmas Dinner.

NAME OF OPERATION: Roasting turkey.

SURGEON: Dr. Chief Cook

ASSISTANT: Dr. Bottle Washer

ANESTHESIA: None.

FLUIDS: Gravy

INDICATIONS FOR SURGERY: The turkey had been pronounced dead previous to the procedure and presented with a body temperature of approximately 10 degrees Fahrenheit. It was placed supine in the hypothermic holding chamber, and gradual warming procedures were instituted for 24 hours previous to surgery. Body temperature was approximately 40 degrees at the time the procedure began.

FINDINGS AND TECHNIQUE: Incisions were already present, and most viscera were surgically absent. The patient had a medical history of decapitation and bilateral pedal amputation. Alopecia was complete with the exception of a few stray feathers, which were removed. The heart, liver, and gizzard were present in the peritoneal cavity along with the cervical portion of the patient's spine. These were removed by the surgeon and put to simmer on the back table to be prepared appropriately for presentation at the completion of the procedure. The peritoneal cavity was thoroughly lavaged, and excess adipose tissue was removed. The distal portions of the bilateral upper appendages were tucked neatly behind the acromioclavicular joints. A specially prepared mixture of cornbread, mushrooms, and sausage with appropriate spices was packed loosely into the peritoneal cavity. Additional portions of the mixture were inserted subcutaneously and superficial to the pectoral muscles. The peritoneal opening was closed in one layer, utilizing skewers and kitchen string. All fork, knife, and spice counts were correct x2. A thermometer was inserted in the appropriate location to ensure correct body temperature at the conclusion of the procedure. The turkey was placed in the Kenmore hyperthermic unit. It was roasted at 325 degrees at the rate of 30 minutes per pound of body weight prior to surgery with intermittent applications of broth and melted butter. After the internal temperature had reached 180 degrees, the turkey was removed from the hyperthermic chamber, and the sutures were removed. The patient was placed supine on a platter and taken to the dining area where it was found to be in excellent condition by all present.

*This operative report was produced as a cooperative effort by members of the Baylor University Medical Center Transcription Department in Dallas, Texas.*

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE

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Dee Hein, CMT  
**Michigan on Record**  
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If you want to receive yours by mail, let us know!

## Michigan on Record

### ARTICLES FOR MAHDI NEWSLETTER

MAHDI's award-winning newsletter is published four times a year. Articles and features are solicited and accepted by the newsletter editor with the understanding that corrections and/or modifications may be made without changing the content. All material submitted becomes the property of the MAHDI publications committee. Articles appearing in MAHDI's newsletter may be reprinted without permission provided credit is given to the author and/or MAHDI.

The **deadline** for articles in our next issue is:

**February 15, 2009**

Please submit articles to the editor at the address above or email [cmtdee@yahoo.com](mailto:cmtdee@yahoo.com)

### MAHDI ADVERTISING POLICY

Advertising rates are per issue/event.

**Full Page** ... .. \$ 100  
**Half Page** ... .. \$ 75  
**Third Page..** ... .. \$ 50  
**Quarter Page** ... .. \$ 35  
**Business Card..** ... .. \$ 15

MAHDI accepts and publishes pre-paid advertising for products and services related to the field of medical transcription. MAHDI reserves the right to reject advertising deemed inappropriate. Advertisements are accepted with the understanding that the editor may make corrections or modifications without changing the content of the advertisement. All material submitted becomes the property of the MAHDI publications committee.

# MICHIGAN ON RECORD

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