



NEWSLETTER Spring 2006

Feedback from San Diego

Many of you had an opportunity to attend the national HIMSS meeting in San Diego in mid-February. There was a huge turnout and the meeting was informative and a wonderful networking opportunity, as always.

This year, the SC Chapter was pleased to be a joint sponsor of the first annual Southeast Regional Chapter Luncheon. The luncheon was held on Tuesday, at the adjacent Marriott Hotel, and we had over 130 people representing chapters from Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Florida, Central Florida, and South Carolina. This event was a terrific opportunity to meet other professionals in the southeast and also network with people in our own chapter, since we're so geographically dispersed. We hope to continue this tradition and do a similar function at next year's HIMSS meeting, which is slated for New Orleans.

Elections are Coming!

Watch your email for announcements about our upcoming HIMSS elections. Again this year, elections and voting will be held on-line. If you have any interest in serving in a leadership capacity with the SC Chapter, please let us know. Michelle Edwards, our Past President, is Chair of the Nominating Committee and can be reached at: michelle.edwards@palmettohealth.org.

Focus on Enhancing Healthcare Quality & Safety:

On Tuesday, March 28th, the Lowcountry / PeeDee region of SCHIMSS hosted an educational and networking event at the South Carolina Research Authority. The event, sponsored by Oracle Corporation, was a reception followed by a presentation and discussion with one of our local healthcare leaders. Mr. Jack Corley, Senior Vice President, CTO, and Quality officer of the Advanced Technology Institute presented the topic of "National Efforts to Use IT to Enhance Healthcare Quality & Safety". As chairman of the HIMSS Electronic Health Record Steering Committee, Jack has been involved in a number of national efforts to advance interoperability and standards for healthcare

information technology. The event was well attended and we would like to give special thanks to Tim Malloy and Ken Pischke, with Oracle Corporation and Heather Goetz, with ATI for their assistance in sponsoring and coordinating an informative and fun evening. Also, many thanks to Jack for sharing his insight and expertise with us!

Spring Fling--- Joint Conference & Golf Event with NC HIMSS!

SCHIMSS is very pleased to co-sponsor an event in May with the NC HIMSS chapter. This looks to be a very informative conference and also offers a great getaway at a reasonable price. The conference will be held at the Grandover Resort, in Greensboro, NC on May 18 and 19. A golf tournament actually kicks off the event on Thursday afternoon, and then is followed by dinner, with a guest speaker during dinner. The main educational session is planned for Friday. Please see the SCHIMSS website (<http://www.schimss.org>) for additional details and registration information. If you would like additional information, you can also contact Bernard Seabrook, our Midlands Regional Ambassador, who is helping to coordinate the event with the NC Chapter. Bernard can be reached at: bernard.seabrook@palmettohealth.org.

Fall Conference?

Early discussions are being held about a fall conference in Charleston. More information to follow; watch the website!

Upcoming Board Meeting

Your SCHIMSS Board is planning an open board meeting on Friday, April 7, from 10 am - 2pm at the Palmetto Regional IT Office in Columbia. We've officially dubbed the day as "Bring a Guest" day, so we are hoping to see lots of new faces there. If you're interested in attending, please contact Melissa Forinash at 843-792-4175 or email at forinash@musc.edu.

Meet..... Your President-Elect!



Jim Smith was elected in spring 2005 as President-Elect for SCHIMSS and he will be taking over as President effective July 1, 2006. Jim is currently the Manager of IS for Ambulatory Care at MUSC and has served in that role since 1996. Jim has been an active member of HIMSS since 1997 and has served on the Board and Conference Planning Committee since 2002. Jim has a clinical background and used to supervise the Clinical Microbiology lab at MUSC before moving into I.S.

Jim also has a strong interest in the HIMSS Advocacy program, and has served as our chapter's liaison to that special interest group. He envisions SCHIMSS becoming more involved in state and federal legislature lobbying for safe and efficient health care practices through the use of information systems. He is committed to helping SCHIMSS develop into a vibrant organization, representing and promoting communication and education among health information system professionals throughout South Carolina.

Jim received his BS in Microbiology from Clemson University, a BS in Medical Technology from MUSC, an MHS in Health Information Administration from MUSC, and still maintains his professional certification as a Registered Medical Technologist. Jim recently obtained certification as a Project Management Professional (PMP). In addition to his activities with SCHIMSS, Jim is also a member of ACHE, the Project Management Institute and participates in alumni associations with the College of Health Professions at MUSC.

Message from the President

It's so hard to believe that it's April and this year has gone so quickly! There are always so many things we want to achieve when we start a new role and time has a way of running out. I have been fortunate to be able to work with a wonderful Board this year and we've made some headway in trying to get and stay in better touch with the membership of our chapter. We are appreciative of those of you who took the time to respond to our member survey in the fall, and are trying to communicate with you more frequently.

With our geographical disbursement, it's very hard to arrange educational programs that will benefit everyone, so we're trying to work on a more regional basis--- which underscores the need for our Regional Ambassadors. We're also looking at joint opportunities with other chapters and other organizations as a way to learn and grow.

There are now 147 members in SCHIMSS! Surely, there are some of you who are anxious to participate in a greater capacity with this organization. Please either give me a call or contact any one of the current board members and join us at the board meeting on April 6th! We would love to see you there!!!! *Melissa*