



THE LIGHTHOUSE

The official publication of the Maine Association
Medical Staff Services, published by and for the
MeAMSS membership

JUNE 2009
Volume 9, Issue 3

Inside this issue

- 1-2. President's Message
2. Correction in News from BOLIM
3. Things your cell phone can do
4. From the Editor
5. 2009 MeAMSS Board Helpful Websites

2009 Education Meeting
Dates
Mark your calendars!



July 17th-Central Maine
Med Center

Oct 30th -Mayo Regional
Hospital

President's Message

Lena McDougal, CPMSM, CPCS Summer is greeting us once again with beautiful blossoms and blooms. I hope you all will truly enjoy these months of warm weather and sunshine and all the blessings they bring. In an effort to keep you informed of the activities of the Board of Directors, I'm providing highlights of our recent meetings. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

MeAMSS Scholarship

On behalf of the Board, I am honored to announce that Sarah Paidá, Credentialing Assistant, Maine Coast Memorial Hospital, is the recipient of a \$400 MeAMSS scholarship award. Sarah is planning to take the CPCS practice exam as well as the certification exam later this year. We wish you all the best, Sarah!

Lighthouse

We discussed the *Lighthouse* and the difficulty in receiving articles from the membership for publication. This is due in part to the increased responsibilities of the MSSP and the lack of time to devote to an article. This is a common theme across the nation with some states deciding to discontinue their publications. For this reason, the Board has decided to move to a quarterly publication, beginning with this month. On behalf of the membership, I commend our current editor, Pat, as well as all the former editors for their diligence and dedication to a quality newsletter.

2010 Biennial Conference

Plans are underway for the 2010 biennial conference. Date and location will be announced soon. Rose and her committee are planning to offer another first-rate conference.

CME

Did you know that if you prepare and present at a MeAMSS conference you can get 2 credits/hour (*and that Rose would love you*)? What a great way to earn extra credit and share your knowledge and expertise with your peers. So schedule yourself with Rose and let us hear from you!

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1-President's Message

Maine Applications

Becky West and the ME Applications Task Force have been working towards the final product. We had some software and consulting issues that held us up for some time but eventually were resolved. The final review by the membership has been done and your comments and suggestions are being considered by the Board and the Task Force. Based upon their review, a final edit will be conducted and the final product will be available for implementation by mid-July.

NAMSS Blogs

I have begun posting NAMSS blogs on our forum. Topics include accreditation updates, legislative updates, general information from NAMSS, etc.

Don't forget to register now for our next **MeAMSS meeting on July 17 at Central Maine Medical Center** in Lewiston. Vicki Searcy is our featured speaker and will present a crosswalk between the Joint Commission Standards and CMS Conditions of Participation. Then after lunch she will present on FPPE/OPPE – Design & Implementation of Effective Systems to Validate Competency.

Correction

The last Lighthouse included a report from Joyce Allen titled "**News from BOLIM**" in which Joyce reported on the presentation by Randal Manning, MBOLIM Ex. Dir.

Item #1 included a note from Joyce stating that CMS requires that all orders by a DAHP (dependent allied health professional) be countersigned by their supervising physician.

Thanks to an astute MeAMSS member, who questioned this statement and asked Joyce for the citation of the Interpretative Guideline where she found this regulation, Joyce has researched and realized that while her hospital requires all orders by PAs and NPs be countersigned, actually the only requirement she could find in the Medicare regs. is the following:

482.24(c)(2)(vii) - Discharge summary:

...Whether delegated or non-delegated, we would expect the person who writes the discharge summary to authenticate, date and time their entry and additionally for delegated discharge summaries, we would expect the MD/DO responsible for the patient during his/her hospital stay to co-authenticate and date the discharge summary to verify its content.

Submitted by Joyce Allen, CPMSM

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the members of the MeAMSS board for awarding me a scholarship which I will be using to prepare for and take the CPCS exam. You have provided me with an invaluable opportunity to pursue career advancement in these very hard economic times, and I am grateful for your generosity.

Sarah Paída



5 Things YOU NEVER KNEW YOUR CELL PHONE COULD DO

Submitted by Pat O'Connor, MS, CSP

There are a few things that can be done in times of grave emergencies. Your mobile phone can actually be a life saver or an emergency tool for survival. Check out the things that you can do with it:

FIRST Emergency

The Emergency Number worldwide for Mobile is 112. If you find yourself out of the coverage area of your mobile, network and there is an emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing network to establish the emergency number for you, and interestingly this number 112 can be dialed even if the keypad is locked. Try it out.

SECOND Have you locked your keys in the car?

Does your car have remote keyless entry? This may come in handy someday. Good reason to own a cell phone: If you lock your keys in the car and the spare keys are at home, call someone at home on their cell phone from your cell phone. Hold your cell phone about a foot from your car door and have the person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the mobile phone on their end. Your car will unlock.

Saves someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can reach someone who has the other "remote" for your car, you can unlock the doors (or the trunk).

Editor's Note: "It works fine! I tried it out and it unlocked my car over a cell phone!"

THIRD Hidden Battery Power.

Imagine your cell battery is very low. To activate, press the keys *3370# Your cell will restart with this reserve and the instrument will show a 50% increase in battery. This reserve will get charged when you charge your cell next time.

FOURTH How to disable a STOLEN mobile phone?

To check your Mobile phone's serial number, key in the following digits on your phone: * # 0 6 #, a 15 digit code appears on the screen. This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe. When your phone gets stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset so even if the thief changes the SIM card, your phone will be totally useless. You probably won't get your phone back, but at least you know that whoever stole it can't use/sell it either. If everybody does this, there would be no point in people stealing mobile phones.

FIFTH Free Directory Service for Cells

Cell phone companies are charging us \$1.00 to \$1.75 or more for 411 information calls when they don't have to. If you put this number in your cell phone, (800-373-3411) you can get free Information calls. You have to listen to a bit of advertising, but not too much. Better than paying for these calls.

FROM THE EDITOR



Root Bound

I was getting my garden beds ready for late Spring planting. I had already cleared away stray dried leaves, pine needles, twigs and other items that had collected over the winter,

Perennials and other plants that had reseeded themselves had already poked their leaves up through the warm soil. I decided I would thin and transplant some of these things. As I started doing this, I found that some of the plants were so root-bound that I could not separate them without risking damage to the plant. I recalled that last summer some of these plants never blossomed despite the growth and beauty of their leaves. I concluded that I had not paid enough attention to these plants or cared for them properly. There have also been times when I've planted seeds and then forgotten all about them. This made me realize that once we plant something, we are obligated to care for it adequately if we expect results.

You may be wondering what root-bound plants have to do with our profession. Well, the root-bound plants made me realize that often neglected projects in both my personal and professional life get either "root-bound" or not cared for properly and because of that, they never "blossom."

Let me give you a couple of examples:

A personal project of mine has been to create a family cookbook for gift giving. I started collecting recipes from family members and the idea as well as the recipes got tucked into a folder and the project has not yet materialized.

It has been a goal of mine as a consulting professional to create a basic credentialing manual since I have never found one in any of the facilities in which I have consulted. I started collecting the "best of the best" from various places. I cleaned my home office in frenzy one day when I had clients coming and everything that had been out on my desk got put into a storage bin. Since I have not been able to consult since May 08 due to vision problems, this project along with others remain "root bound" in that storage bin.

Since life's lessons have taught me that when I have a problem, I'm not usually alone and others have the same problem. It's my intention that this article will prompt you to pay attention to "seeds" you have planted, not just in nature, but in your work setting as well. Check your old "to do" lists, files and piles that may have accumulated around you. You may find plants or seeds eager to bloom.

Kick Back!

Celebrate summer by living life in the slow lane. Go offline for an afternoon and pen a postcard to a friend. In an age of email, Facebook, Twitter and other online connections, receiving a handwritten note is a welcome surprise

HELPFUL WEBSITES

2009 MeAMSS Board

President

Lena McDougal, CPMSM,
CPCS
lenamcd@maine.rr.com

President Elect

Debra Carter, CPCS,
CPMSM
dcarter@synernet.net

Past-President

Cheryl Schilke, RN,
CPMSM
cschilke@synernet.net

Secretary

Joyce Allen, CPMSM
jallen@tamc.org

Treasurer

Rebecca West
bwest@carymed.org

Education Chair

Rose Lyons, CPCS
rylons@synernet.net

Lighthouse Editor

Patricia O'Connor, MS, CSP
poconnor62@msn.com

Media Chair

Judy Lovejoy
jlovejoy@rh.cmhc.org

Membership Chair

Nancy Horn
hornn9@spectrummg.com

Member-at-Large

Jennifer Abbott, RHIT
jabbott@mdihospital.org

<http://www.mainedental.org/>
<https://profiles.ama-assn.org/amaprofiles/>
https://www.do-online.org/index.cfm?PageID=cme_guidereqs
<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/10/chaps10.htm>
<http://www.rovalcollege.ca/>
<http://www.state.me.us/pfr/olr/>
<http://www.archives.gov/locations/index.html>
<http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/letter>
<http://www.nccpa.net/namss.org>
[docboard.org](http://www.docboard.org)
[msleader.com](http://www.msleader.com)
[mssp-nexus.com](http://www.mssp-nexus.com)
[qualityforum.org](http://www.qualityforum.org)
[credentialinfo.com](http://www.credentialinfo.com)
www.aana.com
[jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org)
<https://www.nursvs.com/Common.asp?pt=LICENSEVERIFICATION>
<http://www.maine.gov/boardofnursing>
http://cms.hhs.gov/manuals/Downloads/som107ap_a_hospitals.pdf

**REMEMBER THAT YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE VITAL
TO A MEANINGFUL NEWSLETTER**

2009 Lighthouse Publishing Schedule

Issue
September
December

Deadline for Articles
August 25
November 25