



# THE LIGHTHOUSE

## MAY 2003

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

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### President's Message

***"Flatter me, and I may not believe you.  
Criticize me, and I may not like you.  
Ignore me, and I may not forgive you.  
Encourage me, and I will not forget  
you."***

- William Arthur Ward -

I am sure we could all relate to each of these comments at one time or another. Often many of us tend not to accept flattering comments, because we find it hard to see ourselves as beautiful or talented. Criticism is always difficult, be it constructive or otherwise, because we don't want others to "see" our imperfections. Being ignored leads to a feeling of loneliness and the thought that nothing we do really matters. Often we feel no one recognizes our contributions and how quickly that feeling diminishes when someone does! A few well-placed words of encouragement can make the difference in an individual's productivity, self-esteem, and morale.

Our Association is comprised of talented members who have the responsibility of ensuring that those professionals providing patient care are competent to do so. We need someone to recognize the contributions we make

(encourage/flatter) along the way; someone who allows us to confide or question without being seen as *stupid*, *unprofessional*, or having a *hidden meaning* (ignore/criticize).

I think we all have those special people in our lives. Personally, I would not be where I am today without the encouragement, mentoring, and, yes, criticism of several individuals, some of whom happen to be MeAMSS members. These individuals have been essential to my personal and professional growth. I encourage you to take a moment to express your appreciation to those who have been essential to your growth and to offer encouragement to those whose achievements should be recognized.

To this end, please accept my heartfelt thank-you to each of you who have made my professional growth possible.

*Kim Pelletier, CMSC  
President, MeAMSS*



### UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS DATES

(Remember, to invite a colleague)

**June 27, 2003**

Waldo County General Hospital, Belfast

**September 12, 2003**

Mayo Regional Hospital, Dover-Foxcroft

**December 12, 2003**

MaineGeneral, Waterville





## Golden Star Award

Your nominations were received and the votes tallied. We are pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2003 Golden Star Award is our association's president, Kim Pelletier, CMSC! The following are comments made about Kim:

*"She is exuberant about MeAMSS and is committed to furthering her own, as well as everyone else's, knowledge of the profession..."*

*"I remember Kim when she first started in the credentialing business. At that time, she (like many of us) had never worked in the credentialing field...Despite the fact she had little knowledge in this field, her ambition and determination was an inspiration to all. Kim's positive attitude and wonderful sense of humor has been an asset to our organization...I am proud to have her represent our organization at national functions..."*

*"Kim has always been a dedicated member of our organization; she has put in countless hours working to make sure our educational and professional goals are met..."*

*"For her endless devotion to our organization. She shares her knowledge with anyone who needs help and is a friend to all."*

*"Kim has been a long-term member of the MeAMSS Board and has successfully fulfilled her obligations with the utmost professionalism and commitment but has a good time all the while!"*

The Golden Star Award will be presented at the Maine Hospital Association Summer Forum June 26 at the Samoset. Congratulations Kim!

## Resource Library

The Board of Directors of MeAMSS is currently in the process of developing a resource library from which members can obtain information to enhance their job performance. At this time, the Board would like to express its appreciation to Pat O'Connor, Past President of MeAMSS, for her recent \$100 donation to the Library. Thank you, Pat.



Credentialing and Medical Staff Law, a book written by Elizabeth A. Snelson, Esq. is an excellent, easy to read book for any medical staff professional. Here is one interesting tidbit: Ms. Snelson defines medical staff records as including credentials files; quality assurance files specific to medical staff members; committee, department and general staff meeting minutes; and other documents pertinent to the medical staff organization. She recommends that these be handled according to medical staff bylaws, rules, regulations or policy. "Since the need for documentation of peer review activity may outlive the hospital and medical staff, the medical staff records policy, bylaws and rules and regulations should provide a procedure for preserving medical staff credentials files ' in the event of the closure of the hospital."

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

### Law Review – Answers from last month are underscored.

#### Name the case:

1. Duty to Credential: Application denied when physician refused to authorize prior hospital to release information:
  - Webman v. Little Company of Mary Hospital – California 1995
  - Mathews v. Lancaster General Hospital – Tennessee, 1996
  - Mahmoodian v. United Hospital Center – West Virginia, 1991
  - Darling v. Charleston Memorial Community Hospital – Illinois, 1965
2. End of the Doctrine of Charitable immunity: Patient lost leg due to improper casting:
  - Webman v. Little Company of Mary Hospital – California 1995
  - Mathews v. Lancaster General Hospital – Tennessee, 1996
  - Mahmoodian v. United Hospital Center – West Virginia, 1991
  - Darling v. Charleston Memorial Community Hospital – Illinois, 1965
3. HCQIA: Burden on physician to prove bad faith peer review:
  - Webman v. Little Company of Mary Hospital – California 1995
  - Mathews v. Lancaster General Hospital – Tennessee, 1996

- Mahmoodian v. United Hospital Center – West Virginia, 1991
- Darling v. Charleston Memorial Community Hospital – Illinois, 1965



**NOTE:** CompHealth is now known as CHG Companies, Inc., 4021 South 700 East – Suite 300, Salt Lake City, UT 84107



Please be sure to visit our website at [meamss.org](http://meamss.org)



We encourage you to submit articles to the Lighthouse. Members' names will be included in a drawing this September. Your articles should be sent to Claudia Edwards at [cedwards@mainehospital.org](mailto:cedwards@mainehospital.org).

#### **MeAMSS Board Members 2003**

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