



hfma™

healthcare financial management association

Volume 20 Number 1
June / July 2007

gulf coast lines



June 15 Program

Managed Care & Texas Legislative Update

**T. Daniel (Danny) Hollaway, Esq., President
& Managing Director Hollaway & Gumbert**



Join us for lunch on the third Friday of June when our friend and colleague, T. Daniel "Danny" Hollaway highlights the latest Texas Legislative decisions for us. We are hopeful that he will have some good news to share with us, but Danny is not so sure there will be any good news to report.

Danny serves as a Director of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter. He is also a long time supporter of our Chapter as a Platinum sponsor. He is President and Managing Director of the law firm of Hollaway & Gumbert in Houston, Texas.

Danny is a graduate of South Texas College of Law. He has been engaged in the representation of health care providers since he began his legal career in 1991. He is Board Certified in Health Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. His practice involves many facets of healthcare law, including: Hospital Operations; Regulatory Compliance; Managed Care Contracting; Physician Group Practices and related

[See "Danny Hollaway" next page](#)

July 20 Program

Capital Financing Options

**Phyllis J. Karno, Managing Director,
Greystone & Co., Inc.
Roger Miller, Director, Office of Insured
Health Care Facilities, Dept. of Housing and
Urban Development**



Hospitals have numerous financing options for replacing, rehabilitating, expanding and refinancing. The underlying creditworthiness of the hospital and expected benefit of the proposed capital project together with credit enhancement, if appropriate, in the form of mortgage guarantees or bond insurance, lead to different funding alternatives. This session will (1) review the typical terms of letters of credit and some USDA guarantee programs and (2) illustrate the use of credit enhancement with different funding options such as loans, taxable securities, tax-exempt bonds, etc.



Phyllis J. Karno is Managing Director of Health Care Facility Loan Origination for Greystone. She has worked since 1981 in originating, structuring, negotiating, documenting, and placing debt and equity transactions. Prior to joining Greystone in 2004, she was an Executive Director at UBS AG. During her 16 years at UBS, she syndicated real estate loans, worked out troubled loans, and originated investment grade and leveraged loans in numerous industries. Prior to UBS, she originated

[See "July Program" page 7](#)

Meeting Location

Methodist Hospital
6565 Fannin
Houston, TX
Dunn Rio Grande
Conference Room
Must use Bertner
Entrance for
Complimentary
Valet Parking

See Our Website at
www.hfmatxgc.org
for a parking map
and directions.

In this issue...

- [President's Message...2](#)
- [HFMA Calendar...2](#)
- [New Marketing Committee...3](#)
- [HFMA ANI...3](#)
- [New Members...4](#)
- [Know Your Chapter Leadership...4](#)
- [Certification News...7](#)
- [Motivated Member of the Year: Lisa Dixon...8](#)
- [Members on the Move...12](#)
- [Chapter Leaders...13](#)
- [Chapter Sponsors...14](#)

**HFMA Texas Gulf
Coast Chapter**
P.O. Box 631206
Houston, Texas
77263-1206
Tel: 713.776.1314
Fax: 713.776.1308
info@hfmatxgc.org

Message from the President

By Nancy Brock, Chief Financial Officer
Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Campus



Nancy Brock is Chief Financial Officer for Memorial Hermann Sugar Land. She also serves as the 2007-2008 President for the HFMA Texas Gulf Coast Chapter.

As I begin my year of service to you as Chapter President, I want to give you a heartfelt thank you for the confidence you have placed in me by electing me into this position. I also want to thank Scott McBride, the past President for the commitment and new initiatives he began during his year. We will continue to build on them during the 2007-2008 term.

The new incoming Chairperson for the HFMA National Board is Mary Beth Briscoe and what a fireball she is. Her theme for the year is **Make A Difference**. She has emphasized the difference that each of us can make and the rewards that one receives in return, by participating.

Along that very theme our Chapter Leadership wants to **Make A Difference** for our membership. We intend to offer more educational opportunities as well as to better communicate to the membership what being an active participant in the Chapter can mean for you.

As a result, we are expanding our Program Committee and need more volunteers. Would you like to assist in determining what programs and speakers come to our meetings? If so please contact Laura Comer or Carolyn Gay, the Chair and Co-Chair of the Committee.

In addition, the Chapter has initiated a Marketing Committee with Mark Evard serving as the Chair. He is developing the goals and directions that this Committee will undertake. If marketing and/or website design is an interest of yours, please contact Mark.

There are many other areas where you may have an interest and while doing something you enjoy, you can make new friends. It could be Membership, Newsletter, Community Benefit or one of many other Committees. Please check out our website for a complete list of both Committees and contact information.

I look forward to an exciting year with more educational opportunities and networking with our colleagues. Please feel free to contact me with your suggestions or comments.

Nancy Brock
Chapter President 2007 – 2008
281.725.5213
nancy.brock@memorialhermann.org 

Danny Hollaway

from page 1

ventures; Commercial and Governmental Payor Disputes.

He maintains a very active litigation practice and is an advocate for Providers in the Courts, as well as before government agencies on behalf of healthcare providers. He is also frequently involved in lawsuits and arbitrations involving insurance companies, ERISA cases involving self-funded health plans, commercial managed care organizations and other types of payer organizations on behalf of healthcare providers. Managed Medicare and Medicaid plans are also part of his practice.

Bar association and organization memberships include: American Health Lawyers Association - Texas Bar Association Health Law Section - Houston Bar Association Health Law Section; Texas Bar Association - American Bar Association - American Trial Lawyers Association - Texas Trial Lawyers Association - Houston Bar Association. 

Save the Date Calendar of Events

June 15
Committee Mtg 10:30a
Physician Practice

Monthly Luncheon
11:30a - 1p
Danny Hollaway, Esq.
*Managed Care & Texas
Legislative Update*

June 15
Certification Exam 9am
Offices of Deloitte &
Touche LLP
333 Clay, Ste. 2300
Houston
For information contact
Victoria Nikitin
victoria_nikitin@hchd.tmc.edu
or 713.566.4342

June 24-27
**HFMA's 2007 Annual
National Institute
(ANI)**
San Diego
General Colin Powell,
USA (Ret.), *Leadership:
Taking Charge*
James H. Gilmore: *The
Experience Economy:
Maximizing the Value of
Health Care*
Quint Studer: *Evidence-
Based Leadership: Using
Evidence to Drive Results*

July 20
Committee Mtgs 10:30a
**New Member
Orientation &
Physician Practice**

Monthly Luncheon
11:30a-1:30p
Roger E. Miller, Dept. of
Housing and Urban
Development
Phyllis J. Karno, Greystone
Capital Financing Options

continued next page

New Marketing Committee— Join Us

We're forming a new Marketing Committee.

The Marketing Committee will interface with Chapter Leadership to develop marketing strategies to enhance member retention, promote membership growth by attracting new members and improve the chapter's publicity program.

Committee responsibilities will include print and/or electronic media and web site development and maintenance to ensure that Chapter website updates are timely and in compliance with HFMA National requirements.

Are you experienced in member retention marketing techniques?

Do you have "techie" web site development and maintenance experience?

Then we need YOU! Call or email Mark Evard, Marketing Committee Chairperson at 832.355.3724 or mevard@sleh.com. 



10 Reasons You Should Attend ANI 2007

- Healthcare finance leaders from the nation's premiere hospitals and systems share innovation and strategies for success.
- Keynote Addresses offer insight and dynamic solutions to challenges facing all organizations.
- 81 Breakout Sessions, led by industry experts and providers, offer take-away tools and practical information to help you inspire and advance change throughout your organization.
- Free-flowing and structured networking provides opportunities to exchange ideas on common issues and situations among peers.
- A CD containing all of the tips, tools and handouts from all 81 Breakout Sessions is given attendees to take home and put to good use.
- Preconference programs are designed to enhance your healthcare finance knowledge, while allowing extra time for networking.
- Leading industry stakeholders gather in the Idea Exchange Exhibit to demonstrate tools that foster informed decisions for improving performance, accelerating efficiency and controlling costs.
- The Golf Outing before the conference encourages you to begin networking with your peers while enjoying the San Diego sunshine.
- A spectacular location includes plenty of activities for guests and their families.
- Earn 17 CPEs.

For complete details and to register for ANI, [click here](#) or call (800) 252-4362, extension 2.

Calendar of Events

continued from page 2

**August 17
Committee Mtg 10:30a
Physician Practice**

Monthly Luncheon
11:30a-1:30p
To be announced

Luncheon meetings are generally held on the 3rd Friday of each month at 11:30 am. However, we've made some changes in this year's schedule, so please confirm dates/times in advance.

**Our new meeting
location:**
Methodist Hospital
6565 Fannin
Dunn Rio Grande
Conference Room

Topics and Speakers
subject to change.
Credit Cards accepted.

Know Your Chapter Leadership 2007-08 Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

By Carolyn A. Gay, Administrator for the law firm
of Hollaway & Gumbert



Carolyn Gay is administrator for the law firm of Hollaway & Gumbert. She also serves as a Director on the Board for the HFMA Texas Gulf Coast Chapter and as the Program Committee Co-Chair in 2007-2008.

Your votes have been tabulated and the 2007-2008 Leadership team for the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter has been assembled for the term that begins June 1st (see sidebar on page 11 for a complete list of your new leaders). They recently attended an intensive three-day training program at HFMA National's Leadership Training Conference (LTC) in San Diego and returned energized, enthused, engaged and ready to **Make A Difference** for you, our colleagues in the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of HFMA.

As your newsletter editor for the last four years, I have introduced many new officers, directors, and committee chairs to you, but typically I provided only minimal vital statistics, such as names, Chapter responsibilities and employment details. This year, I wanted to personalize the introductions for you, to give you some added insight into the people that you selected to represent you in our Chapter.

In recent weeks, I was privileged to spend a little time visiting with many of the new leaders, so I could bring to you, our loyal newsletter readers, the inside scoop on this year's officers, board members, and committee chairpersons. First and foremost, I am pleased to announce that **fourteen (14) of thirty-one (31) leaders** have earned HFMA certification; thirteen (13) are HFMA Fellows with an FHFMA designation.

The group also includes walkers, bikers, hikers, skaters, joggers, runners (can you find the two marathon runners?) and fliers (as **two** private pilots). And after chatting with about a third of the group, I counted over 275 collective years of experience in healthcare and related industries. It took a lot of "Courage in Leadership" to survive that many years in this industry!

Read on to see if you can find the person with a parrot named "Bob". Look for the brave soul that went skydiving for a 40th birthday adventure. Can you spot the Comets fan, an Astros enthusiast, the Aggies' dad, the 2nd grade Sunday School teacher, or the person that loves being a MOM? How many sets of twins belong to this group?

There's also a figure skater in our midst; guess who? Two are collectors of old cars - - can you say "hemi" or "HFMA car club"? Who marched in the grand opening parade for Disney World, but refuses to answer to "Mickey"? Who is parent to "Champ the 3-legged Wonder Dog"? And the real shocker — we even have a leader who **enjoys** spending time with two teenagers. Now that's "Courage"! One of our colleagues was in NYC on 9/11 at ground zero.

Keep reading; there are some fascinating people in our group. Get involved and get to know them better. You'll be glad you did!



President: Nancy Brock

Chief Financial Officer, Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Campus

Joined HFMA: 1981 **HFMA Certification:** FHFMA

HFMA History: President-Elect, Vice President, Board Member; Program Committee Chair.

Hobbies & Factoids: golf (hacker), boating, water, old cars (has a 56 Ford), watching football, auto racing, Lady Vols, traveling & pets, Bichon- Shelby & poodle Mysti & parrot Bob.

President-Elect: Cindy Price

Chief Operating Officer, Healthcare Corporation of America (HCA)

HFMA Certification: FHFMA **Years in Healthcare:** 29

HFMA History: Vice President; Board member; Program Committee Chair.

Hobbies & Factoids: Time with family-taking walks with husband, son and two schnauzers! Flying Passion -Private Pilot. Runner-Completed 2 Houston Chevron Full/Marathons



New Chapter Members

Cliff Beck
Ortho-McNeil Inc.

Tammy Collier
Ernst & Young

Mona Crowley, CPA
BKD LLP

Mike Embrey
Bank of America

Teresa Eoff
CitiCapital

Paul Generale
CHRISTUS St. John
Hospital

Wanda Gilmore
Texas Children's Hospital

Deborah Hefley
Amerigroup
Community Care

Caroline Hernandez
U.T. - M.D. Anderson
Cancer Center

Lori Koepsel
Brazosport Regional
Health System

Pamela Littlefield
Triumph Healthcare

Michelle Matney
Meritage

Clifford Mertink
U.T. - M.D. Anderson
Cancer Center

Louie Migliaccio, II
AHC, Inc.

Teresa Pelanne

Lisa Polk
Memorial Hermann TMC

John Raley
Christus Health

continued next page

continued next page

New Leaders

from page 4



Vice President: Melissa Fisher

Chief Financial Officer, Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center

Joined HFMA: 2000

Years in Healthcare: 12

HFMA History: Board Member; Program Committee Co-Chair; Directory Committee; Community Service Committee.

Hobbies & Factoids: Hiked 24 miles across the Grand Canyon. Plays Volleyball and Tennis weekly and loves to do anything outdoors.

Personal Quote: *I have had many opportunities for personal development because of HFMA and recommend that everyone gets involved.*

Secretary to Board: Julie Rabat-Torki

Senior Manager Reimbursement, CHRISTUS Health, Gulf Coast Region

Years in Healthcare: 20 years

HFMA History: Secretary to Board 2 years; Board Member; Community Service Committee Chair. [Editor's comment: Julie was instrumental in taking the committee to new heights & raising the level of awareness among our members regarding the needs of our community.]

Hobbies & Factoids: Enjoys spending time with her teenagers... son, 14 and daughter, 15. That's a first; most people avoid spending time with their teenagers! Loves horses.



Treasurer to Board: Kim Reyna Chair, Founders Committee

Sr. Financial Analyst, Department of Leukemia, UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

Years in Healthcare: 17 years

HFMA History: Treasurer; Board Member; Founders Chairperson.

Hobbies & Factoids: Proud Mom of Aurora, age 3; scrapbooking and 10-year goal opening a winery with JR, her husband.

Past President (2006-2007): Scott McBride

Partner, Baker & Hostetler LLP

Hobbies & Factoids: Father of five children (3 girls and 2 boys). Practices his race car driving skills on the Hardy Toll Road.



Past President (2005-2006): Arden Jean Biggar

Vice President Financial Services, The Methodist Hospital System

HFMA Certification: FHFMA

Board Member 2006-2008: Eric Depew Chair, Joint Programs Committee, Nominating Committee, Public Relations Committee; National Chapter Advancement Team (CAT)

Senior Vice President, MC AnalyTXs, Inc.

HFMA Certification: FHFMA

HFMA History: Past President; Board Member; Programs Committee Chair with our Chapter; Currently a CAT at National HFMA level.

Hobbies & Factoids: Proud father of twins.



New Chapter Members

continued from page 4

Christian Richards
Cardon Healthcare
Network, Inc.

Alexandria Rojas
Methodist Hospital

Tara Ronzone
Tenet Healthcare

James Sheffield

Neil F. Thompson
Harris County Hospital
District

Jonathan Turton, FACHE
St. Joseph Regional
Health Center

Beth Wachira
U.T. - M.D. Anderson
Cancer Center

Lisa Warner
Walker County
Hospital Corp.

Jeffrey Whetzel

Tory Whitemon
Patient Account Services

continued next page

New Leaders

from page 5



Board Member 2006-2008: Kim Endlich Chair, Membership Directory

Principle and owner, KSE Consulting, LLC

Joined HFMA: 1991

Years in Healthcare: 22

HFMA History: Past President; Membership Directory Chair; Sponsorship Chair.

Hobbies & Factoids: cooking, growing herbs, travel, camping, spending time with family, and making home made beer and twisting balloon animals. Has three daughters Myra, age 23, Jackie age 22, Emma age 5 and recently became a grandmother for the first time, to Baby Chloe age 6 months.

Board Member 2006-2008: Tim Eng Chair, Newsletter

Corporate Compliance and Internal Audit, Valley Baptist Health System

Years in Healthcare: 16 (3 years in banking)

HFMA History: Board Member; Academic Affairs Committee Chair; Audit Committee Chair; Newsletter Editor [and he's brave enough to accept the position again!]

Hobbies & Factoids: spending time with his wife and kids, anything dealing with "history", water sports and beaches, travel and reading! (father of twins)



Board Member 2006-2008: Mark Evard Chair, Marketing Committee

Director, Patient Financial Services, St. Luke's Episcopal Health System

Joined HFMA: 2001

Years in healthcare: 17

Hobbies & Factoids: my kids (baseball, basketball, skateboarding, etc.); Married and have two boys, 13 & 11; loves the outdoors; loves mission work both domestic and foreign; serves on church finance committee; skydived for his 40th birthday celebration.

Board Member 2006-2008: Carolyn Gay Co-Chair, Program Committee

Administrator, Hollaway & Gumbert

Joined HFMA: 1999 HFMA Certification: FHFMA

Years in Healthcare: 30 something

HFMA History: Newsletter editor; Academic Committee; Membership Directory Committee

Hobbies & Factoids: Children's Sunday School teacher ages 3-5; Mom to "Champ the 3-legged Wonder Dog" and 2 cats, Mitchell & Bella; Sudoku puzzles; native Houstonian; Comets basketball fan, charter season ticket holder; answers to the name, "Hammer".



Board Member 2006-2008: Mark Kline Co-Chair, Managed Care Committee

Vice President, Network Management for Community Health Choice, Inc.

Joined HFMA: 1988 HFMA Certification: FHFMA

Years in Healthcare: 22 years

HFMA History: Board Member 2006 - present, Managed Care Committee Member 2004- present, Managed Care Committee Co-Chair 2007.

Hobbies & Factoids: Dad to two daughters ages- 26 and 16 (my passion is my family!); Other interests – playing golf (not very good), watching University of Alabama (Crimson Tide) football (very good). Have just begun training for FAA Sport Pilot Certificate.

Moving?

If you are relocating, changing jobs, changing e-mail addresses or phone numbers, don't forget to update your information on the National HFMA website at www.hfma.org

Also, please notify us of your changes at (713) 776.1314 or via e-mail at info@htmatxgc.org

See "New Leaders" page 9

Attention Members-CHFP & FHFMA Candidates!! Certification News:

Next certification exam Friday, June 15, 2007

If you are interested in attaining certification as a CHFP (Certified Healthcare Financial Professional), which leads to the designation of FHFMA (Fellow in the Healthcare Financial Management Association), now is your opportunity!

The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of HFMA is pleased to announce its next certification exam date, scheduled for **Friday, June 15, 2007**.


Please note the day change: the Chapter is no longer offering Saturday exams.

The testing will take place at 9 a.m. in the downtown offices of:

**Deloitte & Touche LLP
Three Allen Center
333 Clay Suite 2300
Houston, TX 77002**

Please contact Victoria Nikitin at 713.566.4342 or e-mail at Victoria.Nikitin@hchd.tmc.edu if you are interested in sitting for an exam on this date. Also, please check out National's website at www.hfma.org to get familiar with the application requirements. The exam application is located at https://www.hfma.org/site/certification/exam_application.cfm.

The South Texas Chapter is sponsoring an exam opportunity on Saturday, June 16, 2007. The test will be held at Baptist Health System School of Health Professions in San Antonio. Testing will begin at 9 a.m. Brenda Cox will serve as proctor. For further information please contact Brenda at bc Cox@onr.com or 512.496.9989.

General information about HFMA certification may also be found at <http://www.hfma.org/certification/>. Our members are having a record-breaking year with the number of successful exams and we would like you to be one of those successes!! Let us know if we can help you. 

July Program

from page 1

limited partnership syndications for accredited investors at Bear Stearns & Co. Inc. She is the proud wife and mother of two teenage boys. She has a B.A. from Tufts University and an M.B.A. from New York University.

Greystone is a full-service real estate and health care investment banking firm. Greystone provides access to low cost funding to health care facilities and seniors housing for new construction, expansion, refinancing and acquisitions.

Roger E. Miller is Director of the Office of Insured Health Care Facilities for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Throughout his career, Roger has devoted his energies to improving healthcare in this country. For the past 18 years, he has assisted hospitals that come to the Federal government for mortgage insurance. Hospitals that obtain the insurance can get lower interest rates on loans for modernization; if hospitals pay less in interest, patients pay less for care. His empathy for the needs of hospitals and patients comes from over 20 years experience in hospital administration. As the Senior Vice President of a large teaching hospital, the patient care costs and lengths of stay were among the lowest in the United States. Some of that time he represented and addressed the needs of physician staff, which in time led him to found a physician consulting practice. Roger originated one of the nation's first cogeneration systems during a time of oil shortage to make

continued next page

Certification News

**Next Exam Date
Friday,
June 15
at 9:00 a.m.**

Offices of Deloitte &
Touche, LLP
Three Allen Center
333 Clay, Suite 2300

Don't Forget E-Learning

Need CPE credits?
No time to travel?

Try E-Learning

Over 1,000 manageable
lessons and you're in
control

Accounting & Finance,
Admissions, Billing, Joint
Commission, Managed
Care, Medical
Terminology, Patient
Financial Services,
Physician Practice.

To find out more, go to
www.hfma.org and select
"Education & Events"
from the left-hand
toolbar. Then select "E-
Learning Courses".

Congratulations Lisa Dixon! Motivated Member of the Year

Each year the Chapter's Officers and Board of Directors accept nominations and vote to approve formal recognition of a single individual through the **Motivated Member of the Year** award process created in honor of our Past President and Board member Karen Burke.

In 1999, Karen Burke, as Chapter President, modeled personal commitment in building an effective leadership team with the Chapter's Officers and Board members. Karen's winning smile and abiding faith in building high-energy leadership teams reversed a trend of declining membership involvement.

Karen passed away on August 19, 2004, but her spirit lives on in the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of HFMA.

In 2005, the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter's Board approved an annual award process to keep Karen's legacy alive. The **Motivated Member of the Year** award is presented every year to a chapter member who consistently supports and demonstrates through personal interactions the supportive professional networking environment that Karen embodied.

For FY 2007, Lisa Dixon received this distinction.

Lisa's colleagues nominated her for this distinctive honor because of her wonderful "can do" attitude and the creative and enthusiast way that she has taken the Community Benefits Committee and ran with it. Her supporters also like the way she has found really unique charities to support and the ability she has had in gaining support from the members.

Lisa has chaired the Community Service Committee for two years. Lisa has a very unique gift of identifying groups in our community who are in need of assistance and an equally distinctive gift of encouraging our Chapter's members to help those that have special needs. Her recent accomplishments include the collection of 311 teddy bears for the Houston Police Department Teddy Bear Drive in December 2006; 15 boxes of school supplies for Houston Gardens Elementary School in August 2006; and \$194 and five bags of school supplies for the Aim High Academy in February/March 2007.

As a recipient of the **Motivated Member of the Year** award, Lisa received an all expense paid trip to HFMA National's annual Leadership Training Conference and will be recognized as the award recipient in the Chapter's Directory every year.

Lisa joins an elite group. Previous award recipients were Victoria Nikitin (2005, first year award given) and Kent Walters (2006).

Lisa, thanks for your dedication to our Chapter and your enthusiasm! 



Lisa Dixon is a Client Services Manager for Cardon Healthcare Network. She also serves as the 2005-2006 Chairperson for our Chapter's Community Service Committee

CMS News

Clinical Trial Policy Open for Public Comment

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced today its proposed revisions to the Clinical Trial Policy national coverage determination (NCD). Under the Clinical Trial Policy, first developed in September 2000, Medicare pays for certain items and services for Medicare beneficiaries involved in clinical trials.


"This new decision will signal our continued support to provide access to services for beneficiaries by facilitating participation in the full range of qualified, scientifically sound research projects," said CMS Acting Administrator Leslie V. Norwalk, Esq.

[continued next page](#)

July Program

from page 7

the hospital less dependent on costly foreign oil and to reduce the costs of electricity and heat. Educational and career laddering is critical to attract and maintain qualified staff in the nursing professions. A key step, a B.S. degree in nursing, became a reality when he helped establish the School of Nursing at York College.

Roger began his focus on health care in the military's Medical Service Corps, which he joined following graduation from Dickinson College. Following Army service, he prepared himself for his life's work by getting a Masters in Hospital Administration from the University of Minnesota. He is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. 

New Leaders

from page 6



Board Member 2006-2008:
Mary Ann Missman
Chair, Membership Directory Committee

Manager, Internal Audit, UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

Joined HFMA: 1995

HFMA Certification: FHFMA

Years in healthcare: 18 years

HFMA History: Credits Karen Burke with sparking her interest in participating more actively in Chapter activities. Mary Ann became active in chapter leadership 1998-99 - the year of Karen Burke's presidency.

Hobbies & Factoids: serious Astros fan; prefers beach vacations; willingly busts the budget for grand kids; Houston resident since 1986; native Californian.

Board Member 2006-2007: Victoria Nikitin
Chair, Certification Committee

Director, Operations Improvement & Decision Support; Harris County Hospital District

Joined HFMA: 2001

HFMA Certification: FHFMA

HFMA History: Board Member; Certification Committee Chair; Program Committee Member

Hobbies & Factoids: spending time with wonderful husband, daughter, family pets, and figure skating

Board Member 2007-2009: Laura Comer
Chair, Program Committee

VP of Strategic Implementation, University General Hospital Systems, LLP

HFMA Certification: FHFMA **Years in Healthcare:** 15

HFMA History: Membership Committee Managed Care Committee Chair, Certification Committee, Board Member, Programs Committee Chair

Hobbies & Factoids: enjoys traveling, spending time with her family and especially going to Sunday brunch. Little known fact, she is a Mary Kay Lady in her spare time



Board Member 2007-2009: Lisa Dixon
Chair, Community Service

Client Services Director, Cardon Healthcare Network

Joined HFMA: 2000

Years in Healthcare: 16 "short years"

HFMA History: Lisa is starting her 3rd year as Chair of the Community Service Committee and served 2 years previously as a committee member.

Hobbies & Factoids: wife of Ted and mother of six year old Benjamin; enjoys traveling for business and pleasure, shopping, reading, serving the community, live basketball games, Broadway shows, girls weekends, family vacations, but what brings her the greatest joy is being a MOM!

Board Member 2007-2009: Steve Hand
Past President (2001-02)

System Executive, Government Reporting-Operations, Memorial Hermann

Joined HFMA: 1990

HFMA Certification: FHFMA

HFMA History: Past President, Board Member, Membership Directory Chair, Regional Executive for Region 9; Board of Examiners-National HFMA; Chapter Advancement Team-National HFMA; Treasurer of Region 9 Annual Meeting.

Hobbies & Factoids: likes old cars, car shows, reading about them and even collecting them; currently owns - 69 Cadillac, 76 Cadillac, 93 Cadillac; recently sold a 64 Olds; also likes to jog, it clears his mind.



CMS News

from page 8

In developing the revised clinical trial policy, CMS convened the Medicare Evidence Development and Coverage Advisory Committee (MedCAC) on December 13, 2006. The MedCAC proposed several recommendations, subsequently reviewed by a federal panel led by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). In addition to AHRQ, the federal panel included representatives from CMS, FDA, CDC, HRSA and the NIH.

Based on the recommendations from the MedCAC and the federal panel, CMS is proposing to revise its Clinical Trial Policy.

The proposed NCD opens a 30-day comment period. CMS will review all the public comments and suggestions received and incorporate them into a final NCD. CMS will publish the final NCD no later than sixty days after the end of the comment period. The revised policy will be effective with the publication of the final NCD.

Details of the coverage policy are available at the CMS coverage website at:

www.cms.hhs.gov/mcd/viewdraftdecisionmemo.asp?id=186

continued next page

New Leaders

from page 9



Board Member 2007-2009: Lance Loria

President, Loria Associates, LLC

Joined HFMA: 1979

Years in Healthcare: 35

Lance noted that CPA ethics would not allow CPAs to join professional organizations in early 1970s

HFMA History: Presented more than 100 seminars/programs to national, regional and local groups and published over 50 articles on a variety of healthcare topics

Hobbies & Factoids: Originally from Long Island; grew up in Sarasota, FL; worked at Disney World when it first opened in 1971 and marched in the grand opening parade through downtown Orlando; Captain in the U.S. Army Reserves; married 26+ years to Claire; two daughters, one is an elementary school teacher that graduated from A&M while my other daughter is a Junior economics major at A&M.

Board Member 2007-2009: Rita Patel

Administrative Director of Patient Accounts and Revenue Services, Harris County Hospital District

Joined HFMA: 1996

HFMA Certification: FHFMA

Years in Healthcare: 20

Hobbies & Factoids: travel, watching college football and gardening.



Board Member 2007-2009: Lisa Schillaci Chair, Awards Committee

Director of Patient Accounting for The Methodist Hospital System

Joined HFMA: 1997

HFMA Certification: FHFMA



Hobbies & Factoids: Mother of Caroline Brooke, 20 months old and wife to John. Her life changed dramatically since having the baby; spends most of free time tending to baby; daily exercise (running, walking, biking, in-line skating); she puts Caroline in the jogger stroller and away they go.

continued next page

Workers' Compensation News

Timely Filing Complaints

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (Division) has posted memorandums to insurance carriers and health care providers regarding timely filing and handling of medical bills to the agency website. Since the implementation of the 95-day medical billing requirements, the Division has received numerous complaints from health care providers regarding insurance carrier denials of medical bills as not timely submitted.

The Division provides guidance to parties that when these complaints are received, and all complaints and requests for medical dispute resolution reviewed and processed through the Divisions Medical Fee Dispute Resolution section.

continued next page

HFMA Job Bank

HFMA Texas Gulf Coast Chapter Job Bank

Contact Dianne Love, PhD at love@cl.uh.edu to post job opportunities and/or to be added to the HFMA e-mail distribution group for future job opportunities.



HFMA National Job Bank

http://www.hfma.org/careers/job_bank_new.cfm

HAS Is TriSurant

HAS is now called TriSurant. Contact details are provided below.

100 Glenborough Drive,
Suite 450
Houston, Texas 77067
tel: 281.873.8682
fax: 281.873.5251
www.TriSurant.com

New Leaders

from page 10

Board Member 2007-2009: Kent Walters

Administrator, Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy, The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

Joined HFMA: 2004

Years in Healthcare: 19

HFMA History: Physician Practice Committee Chair, Board Member, Most Motivated Member Award winner 2006



Hobbies & Factoids: In NYC during 9/11 and at ground zero 2 hours after towers fell to witness aftermath. During Blackout of 2003, climbed 40 flights of stairs to get to apartment – and lived to tell about. Enjoys wine (have taken 1 course in New York and 1 course in Houston) and playing handyman around the house (which usually requires more fix-up work). Has a 4 year old Maine Coon with a lot of ‘tude thereby proving dogs have masters and cats have staff.



Board Member 2007-2009: Tom Watson Chair, Audit Committee

Partner, BKD, LLP, Houston, Texas

HFMA Certification: FHFMA

HFMA History: formerly president of the Arkansas HFMA chapter and excited to get involved again.

Hobbies & Factoids: running (marathons - 2-3/year), golf and waterskiing. Tom has two sons (5 and 9) and weekends tend to be taken up with baseball and swim meets.

Co-Chair, Managed Care Committee: Charlene Parker

Business Development Leader, Mercer Health & Benefits.

Hobbies & Factoids: new resident of Houston and proud wife and mother to daughter Jessica and their new puppy Terri.

Charlene is HFMA's newest Co Chairman who will work to 'Bridge the Gap – between Payers, Providers, and Employers.'



Co-Chair, Membership Committee: Donna Hinman

Major Account Executive, TransUnion

Joined HFMA: 2005 (calls herself a "short timer")

HFMA History: Membership Committee & 40th Anniversary Newsletter Committee. Credits Lynda Vibrock for recruiting her immediately to join the Membership Committee.

Hobbies & Factoids: First hobby is SHOPPING especially for bargains!; also spending time with hubby & special friend of 26 years; volunteering with Heart Exchange Support Group at St Luke's Episcopal Hospital; and this was her first year as a 2nd grade Sunday School Teacher (thoroughly enjoyed). Has 3 grandchildren in Cincinnati OH.



Chair, Davis Management System Committee: Kimberly Soard

Principle & owner, Law Offices of Kimberly Soard, P.C.

Chair, Academic Affairs Committee: Lance Ferguson

Administrative Fellow, Memorial Hermann Healthcare System

Chair, Job Referral Committee: Dianne Love

Healthcare Administration Program, University of Houston Clear Lake

Years in Healthcare: over 20 years

HFMA History: Past President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Program Committee



Hobbies & Factoids: My grandchildren.

continued next page

Workers' Compensation News

continued from page 10

Memo for Insurance Carriers "Carrier Receipt and Handling of Medical Bills": <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/carrier/documents/carrier95bill.pdf>

Memo for health care providers "Carrier Denials for Medical Bills Not Timely Filed": <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/hcprovider/documents/provider95bill.pdf>

SUBSCRIBE: To this free service, send an email to medicalbenefits@tdi.state.tx.us and provide the email address. Type the word "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line of the email. Email addresses are not collected for commercial purposes and the Division does not sell or otherwise disclose e-mail addresses for commercial purposes.

On-Line Interest Calculator Texas Workers' Compensation Claims

<http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/carrier/discounrates.html>

Members on the Move

By Carolyn A. Gay, Administrator for the law firm of Hollaway & Gumbert




Carolyn Gay is administrator for the law firm of Hollaway & Gumbert. She also serves as a Director on the Board for the HFMA Texas Gulf Coast Chapter and as the Program Committee Co-Chair in 2007-2008.

Lisa Dixon was recently promoted to Client Services Director for Cardon Healthcare from her previous position as Client Services Manager. Lisa has been in healthcare for 16 short years and with Cardon Healthcare for nine (9) years. Lisa lead our Chapter through many successful Community Service projects as the Chairperson for our Chapter's Community Service Committee during 2006-2007. Lisa will also be serving as a board member for 2007-2009 and will continue her role as the Chairperson for the Community Service Committee.

T. Daniel ("Danny") Hollaway, President and Managing Director of Hollaway & Gumbert, has been invited by the University of Houston Law Foundation to speak at its Health Care Law course in July 2007. The course will be presented live in Houston and Dallas; **July 12-13 in Houston and July 19-20 in Dallas**. Danny's topic, *Managed Care Update Including Issues Involving Employers, Government, Payors, Privies, and Patients*, will be presented on Friday the 13th in Houston and the 20th in Dallas. For more information about the *Health Care Law* course, visit www.uhcle.org.

Kim Reyna recently joined UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center as a Sr. Financial Analyst in the Department of Leukemia. Kim is settling in to her new responsibilities and reports that she is happy to be working in the Texas Medical Center once again. Kim also serves as the Treasurer and Founders Contact for the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter.

Terry Sánchez Allison joined Revenue Cycle operations at UTMB Galveston as the Executive Director of Revenue Cycle, effective June 4th. Terry is excited about the new challenges ahead, as she joins UTMB's efforts to identify synergies between the faculty group practice and hospital revenue cycle to reduce revenue cycle costs while enhancing revenue cycle effectiveness and collections. Terry is a Past President of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of HFMA. We are looking forward to her return to the Houston vicinity and our HFMA Chapter. 

New Leaders

from page 11

Co-Chair, Membership Committee: Phyllis Speer

Senior Financial Reporting Analyst, UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

HFMA Certification: CHFPP



Co-Chair, Membership Committee: Debbie Teesdale

Vice President, Resource Corporation of America

Joined HFMA: 2004

Years in Healthcare: 5

Almost 5 years ago Debbie made a life changing career decision to move from Commercial Real Estate to follow her passion of healthcare.

Hobbies & Factoids: Married, 3 daughters ...all in college! Favorite things: spending time with family at the beach & 2 dogs, cooking, reading, traveling, cherishing time with my aging Mom, Bible Study, and quenching my thirst of learning new things. Private Pilot, as well!

Chair, Physician Practice Committee: Trey Mitchell

Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Texas 

American Benefit Plans Receivership Closure

The Special Deputy Receiver for American Benefit Plans has determined that it would not be cost effective to continue the lawsuit against Robert David Neal, promoter of the ABP scheme, as well as other individuals and entities directly or indirectly involved in the scheme. Therefore the suit was recently dismissed and the court issued an Order of Non-Suit Without Prejudice.

The Special Deputy Receiver advised that there will not be any further distributions to creditors and the receivership estate is being closed.

According to the Special Deputy Receiver, all health care providers who filed Proofs of Claim in the American Benefit Plan receivership estate agreed to not pursue patients for any unpaid costs of treatment, pursuant to court order and the contractual terms of the Proof of Claim form and subject to coverage acceptance by the Special Deputy Receiver. Claims that were denied for no coverage did not fall under this restriction. Providers should be aware of laws in their resident states, if any, regarding billing of patients.

Source: <http://www.texasreceiver.com/InsuranceSummary.asp?insID=1&su=y>

CMS News...

IRF Policy Changes - Public Comments Until July 2

Inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs) are projected to receive approximately \$6.3 billion in payments from the Medicare program in fiscal year (FY) 2008, under a proposed rule announced by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

The proposed rule would update payment rates and modify payment policies for services furnished to Medicare beneficiaries for discharges occurring on or after October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. The rule's provisions are estimated to increase Medicare payments to approximately 1,234 IRFs in FY 2008 by approximately \$150 million.

Notes: Comments on the proposed rule will be accepted until July 2, and a final rule will be issued later this year. Additional information about the IRF proposed rule is posted on the CMS web site at: www.cms.hhs.gov/InpatientRehabFacPPS/


Grants For Long-Term Care - \$547 Million

Thirteen states and the District of Columbia will get more than \$547 million in grants over five years to build Medicaid long-term care programs that will help keep people at home and out of institutions, Leslie V. Norwalk, Acting Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced today.

This "Money Follows the Person" initiative was included in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA), currently being implemented by CMS. It is a component of the administration's New Freedom Initiative, a nationwide effort to remove barriers to community living for people of all ages with disabilities or chronic illnesses.

"The concept of money following the person to the most appropriate setting improves beneficiary satisfaction while reducing Medicaid costs," Ms. Norwalk said. "We intend to keep taking steps to remove barriers and rebalance the options for Medicaid-funded long-term care."

All states were eligible to participate in the five-year demonstration program and had to commit to provide demonstration services for at least two years. States receiving grant funds will qualify for a higher percentage of federal matching dollars to help cover the costs of moving people out of nursing homes and into community settings.

For a list of the states that were approved to receive the grants and for more details about the New Freedom Initiative, visit the CMS web site at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/newfreedom/> 



Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

President [Nancy Brock](#)
President-Elect [Cindy Price](#)
Vice President [Melissa Fisher](#)
Treasurer [Kim Reyna](#)
Secretary [Julie Rabat-Torki](#)
Past President [Scott McBride](#)

Board of Directors

[Laura Comer](#)
[Eric V. Depew](#) • [Lisa Dixon](#)
[Kimberly Endlich](#)
[Tim Eng](#) • [Mark Evard](#)
[Carolyn Gay](#) • [Steve Hand](#)
[Mark Kline](#) • [Lance Loria](#)
[Mary Ann Missman](#)
[Victoria Nikitin](#)
[Rita Patel](#) • [Lisa Schillachi](#)
[Kent Walters](#)
[Tom Watson](#)

Committee Chairs

Academic Affairs

[Lance Ferguson](#)

Audit

[Tom Watson](#)

Awards

[Lisa Schillachi](#)

By-Laws

[Arden Jean Biggar](#)

Certification

[Victoria Nikitin](#)

Community Service

[Lisa Dixon](#)

Davis Mgmt. System

[Kim Soard](#)

Founders Points

[Kim Reyna](#)

Job Referral

[Dianne Love](#)

Managed Care

[Mark Kline](#)

[Charlene Parker](#)

Marketing

[Mark Evard](#)

Membership

[Donna Hinman](#)

[Phyllis Speer](#)

[Debbie Teesdale](#)

Membership Directory

[Kim Endlich](#)

Newsletter

[Tim Eng](#)

Nominating

[Eric V. Depew](#)

Physician Practice

[Trey Mitchell](#)

Programs

[Laura Comer](#) • [Carolyn Gay](#)

Public Relations

[Eric V. Depew](#)

Sponsorship

Strategic Planning

[Nancy Brock](#)

Chapter Administration

Non-Profit Services Corp.

Dean & Terry Newton

Tel: 713.776.1314

Fax: 713.776.1308

info@hfmatxgc.org

Newsletter Deadlines (All Years)

<u>Editions</u>	<u>Submissions Deadline</u>
Aug/Sept	July 13
Oct/Nov	September 14
Dec/Jan	November 9
Feb/Mar	January 12
Apr/May	March 10
June/July	May 11

Submit articles (MS Word) or advertising (.jpg or .tif files) to the newsletter editor, **Tim Eng at teng1@houston.rr.com**.

Gulf Coast Lines is published bi-monthly by the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of the Healthcare Financial Management Association as a communication medium to Chapter members. Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter or its members.

Members are encouraged to submit articles and report news of interest to the membership. Contact the editor to obtain deadlines for submitting articles. The editor reserves the right to edit any submission for clarity and length, and to accept or reject any submission. Please send all submissions to:

P. O. Box 631206 • Houston, Texas 77263-1206
Tim Eng, Managing Editor • teng1@houston.rr.com
Becky Turner, Layout/Production • rturner@npscsmgmt.com

2006/2007
Platinum Sponsors

Deloitte.

HOLLAWAY & GUMBERT

www.healthlawtexas.com

2006/2007
Gold Sponsors

Baker Hostetler
Counsel to Market Leaders

BKD LLP

ERNST & YOUNG
FROM THOUGHT TO FINISH™

**Financial Corporation of
America**

 **JACKSON WALKER L.L.P.**
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS SINCE 1887

the
MASH[®]
program

**MEMORIAL
HERMANN**

Vinson & Elkins
Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.


X A M



hfma[®]

P.O. Box 631206
Houston, TX 77263-1206
Tel: 713.776.1314
Fax: 713.776.1308
info@hfmatxgc.org

2006/2007
Silver Sponsors

Accenture

MCARE Solutions, Inc.

**Cardon Healthcare
Network**

MEDCLR

**CHRISTUS Health
Gulf Coast Region**

**The Methodist
Healthcare System**

Craneware

**Passport Health
Communications, Inc.**

Creditcare Systems, LLC

**Perot Systems
Healthcare**

DST Technologies

**St. Luke's Episcopal
Healthcare System**

**HCA Patient Account
Services**

TransUnion LLC

IMaCS

XactiMed

MC AnalyTXs, Inc.