
HCFA/CMS

ALUMNI NEWS

FALL 2006 (Vol. 12 No. 4)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, the Summer is over and Fall is upon us. The days are getting shorter and the Winter Holidays are just around the corner.

I am very pleased to report that 17 of our members and friends had a terrific time at the Summer Picnic (see article inside) and I encourage everyone to join in future activities of this nature. Speaking of which, check out the flier enclosed about the Holiday Luncheon, which is planned for Thursday, December 14 at the beautiful Turf Valley Country Club. Sign up information is on the flier. This is a really nice setting and the food is first rate, as the 68 people who attended last year will readily agree. The Association will be subsidizing the cost to make it well worthwhile and reasonably priced. We hope to see many of you there.

I am pleased that the association continues to attract new members and that we are able to keep members on board. On page 2 you will see a list of 13 new members, bringing the membership up to an all time high of 480.

In this issue you will find information on the year 2007 membership renewal process, including the form to complete and an envelop to use (**But only if you need to renew**). Dues remain at \$5.00 per year and we hope that those needing to do so will take advantage of the opportunity to renew at this time, while it is fresh in your mind. 238 of you do not have to renew at this time because you are already paid up through 2007 or beyond and **you will NOT find a renewal form with your newsletter. 242 of you are due for renewal and will find a form enclosed.**

I want to wish you all a Wonderful New Year and continued happiness, good health and prosperity in retirement.



William L Engelhardt

HCFA/CMS ALUMNI NEWS

Published four times a year for the members of the Health Care Financing Administration
/Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (HCFA/CMS) Alumni Association

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DUE DATES FOR FUTURE ISSUES

Winter Issue – December 22, 2006

Spring Issue – March 23, 2007

Send material to:

HCFA/CMS Alumni News

P.O. Box 47564

Baltimore, MD 21244-7564

TELEPHONE: 410-786-3918

FAX: 410-786-3898

E-MAIL:

HCFAALUM@cms.hhs.gov

INTERNET:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/CMSAlumni>

NEW MEMBERS

The Association extends a hearty "Welcome Aboard" to the following new members:

Mike Adelberg
Gary A. Bailey
David J. & Elizabeth Butler
Daniel Driscoll
Myra Eisenstadt
James A. Gordon
Susan Hart
Nancy V. Lafferty
Carol Rubenstein
Eric Soderstrom
Carlis Taylor
Marc Thomas
Margaret VanAmringe

We now have 480 active members.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AND PAYMENT OF YEAR 2007 DUES

It is again time to begin the collection of the annual dues, this time for the year 2007, covering the period of January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007. Enclosed with this issue of the Alumni News is the re-enrollment form (**but only for those 240 members who need it**). Dues remain at just \$5.00 per year. When using the form to mail in your dues, please note any changes in information so we may update our records (i.e. address, e-mail, phone number, etc.)

For your convenience, we have included a pre-addressed envelope to send in your 2007 dues. **If you have already paid your 2007 dues you will NOT find an enrollment form included with this issue.**

Also responding to popular request, we continue to accept membership enrollment (or re-enrollment) for multiple years. Dues are \$5.00 per year and members can sign up for any number of years. Because the dues are nominal, there are no discounts for multiple year enrollments and there is no "lifetime" membership. Multiple year enrollments are available as a convenience to members. To facilitate keeping track of individual enrollment periods, the mailing labels used to send the HCFA/CMS Alumni News now contain the member's I.D. Number and the date of expiration of enrollment, i.e., 12/31/06. **Those with a date later than 12/31/06 do NOT need to renew at this time.**

NEW MEMBER DIRECTORY UPDATE

At the back of this newsletter you will find a page with a Member Directory Update. It includes all additions (i.e., new members) and reported changes since the Summer 2006 Edition of the Member Directory was issued. We plan to continue to include updates from July 2006 on in future issues of The HCFA/CMS Alumni News, until the next issuance of a complete Member Directory. Therefore the update in each issue will be a complete one and can replace all prior updates. **Since this is an update, you will NOT find yourself listed in it unless there has been a change in your membership information or you became a new member since the Member Directory was issued.**

We encourage members to keep us informed of changes so that we can in turn keep everyone up to date. E-mail addresses seem to be particularly subject to change or elimination.

MEMBERSHIP SEARCH

As always, we acknowledge that there are many HCFA/CMS retirees that we have not been able to reach to tell them about the Alumni Association and invite them to join. We continue to ask for your assistance in spreading the message about us to them. If you know of any retiree that is not a member, please let them know about us and tell them how to contact us by telephone, snail mail or e-mail (all of that information can be found on page 2 of this issue). We will be very happy to send, either electronically or via snail mail, anyone the enrollment form and further information about membership. And Bill Engelhardt says you can always e-mail him personally at wlengelhardt@adelphia.net for faster response (as the office e-mail is only accessed weekly).

SSAEAA

We'd again like to remind members that we do have a link to the Social Security Administration Employee Activities Association (SSAEAA) on our web site. The actual URL for it is "<http://ssaeaa.org>" but you can just click on the link on our page. HCFA/CMS retirees are automatically members of the SSAEAA and are eligible to participate in discount purchases.

COLA COUNT

Through 11 months of the counting period toward the January 2007 federal retiree cost of living adjustment, the consumer price index used to set that adjustment has accumulated to 3.6 percent following an increase of 0.2 percentage points in June, 0.3 points in July, and 0.2 points in August. CSRS retirees would get the full adjustment while FERS retirees who are eligible for COLAs would get 1 percentage point less, assuming the COLA count finishes above 3 percent. There is one month left in the counting period.

SUMMER COOKOUT

17 Alumni members and friends came to the summer cookout at the home of past president Walter B. Schauermann on August 11 and everyone had a wonderful time. 35 had actually signed up but unfortunately there were a fairly large number of cancellations for one reason or another. We retirees lead busy lives and sometimes schedule conflicts are just unavoidable. Those who were able to make it were certainly glad that they did. Herb Shankroff's baked beans, as usual, were out of this world. Darlene Summerfield's Deviled Eggs, Coleslaw, chocolate cake, and Fruit/Veggie Tray (the fresh cut up peaches and sliced tomatoes were awesome) were very good. Barbara Booth's potato salad was a big hit. Ellen Engelhardt's marble pound cake was a smash hit, as always. Walt cooked up the meat in fine fashion and the liquid refreshment was in good supply. The weather was great and the picnic was held outdoors and indoors in beautiful and spacious surroundings. A lot of reminiscing, story telling and just great conversation filled the air. Every year this just gets better and better, and so we intend to do this again next year! We hope to see even more of you then.

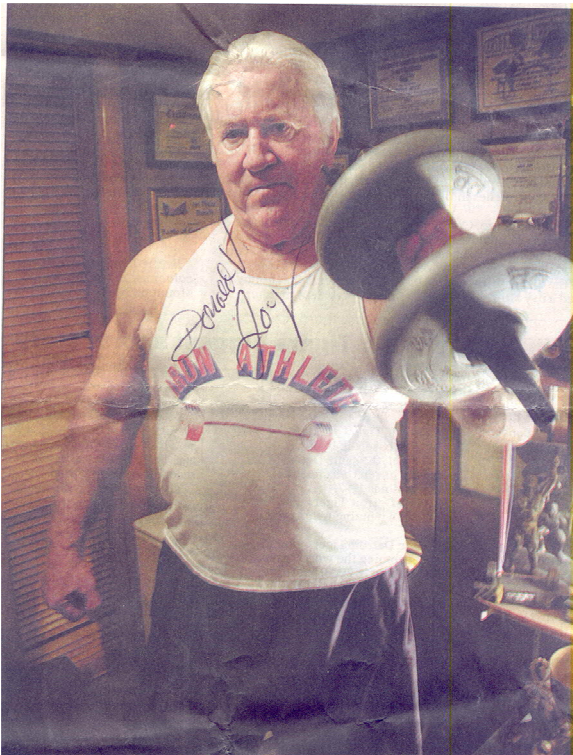
ALUMNI MEMBER DON JOY POWER LIFTS

Getting better with age

As he gets older,
Joy winning more competitions

By Eboni Preston

staff writer
Carroll County Times
August 9, 2006



Don Joy, who will turn 75 by the end of the year, has been lifting weights for more than 20 years and has won numerous weightlifting championships from around the country

Don Joy knows how to win. He's won more than 60 master power lifting contests, 67 medals and he's competed in five national softball tournament games.

Now nearing age 75, the winning continues for the Westminster resident.

Joy recently earned four first-place finishes in the 70-74 age group at the World National Power Lifting Federation contest in Baltimore. Joy took first place in two separate single lift bench press competitions, the multiple bench press competition and the struck power ball curl competition.

He won his age group easily, outlifting two opponents by more than 100 pounds and Joy says he's only getting better. "Different people say they don't know how a person at 75 can lift so much," said Joy. "But I lift 100 pounds more now than I did when I was 55, so I have come a long way and I improve every day."

He'll get no argument from Scott Bixler, a national champion in his own right and one of Joy's workout partners. "For Don to continue lifting...it's incredible," Bixler said.

Joy pressed 305 pounds for two wins in the single lift bench press competitions and he pressed his body weight of 247 pounds 10 times in the multiple bench press competition. On the fourth event of the day, Joy finished with 125 pounds in the struck power bar curl.

Joy said he enjoyed lifting more than 50 years ago when he was in the armed forces, but he really started getting serious about training two decades ago. "When I was 55 I started joining a couple of gyms," he said. "I started up mainly because my children were all grown up at that time. I had three daughters and one son, so when they left I started to get pretty active."

At about that time, Joy subscribed to "Powerlifting USA" and he decided he should enter his first contest. He fashioned a gym in his basement and he also began to work out at a new gym at his work. Joy said the magazine subscription really made him get involved in power lifting. "I started getting the magazine and I saw people that looked like Arnold Schwarzenegger on there and I decided I wanted to start doing that stuff," he said.

Now Joy gets together four times a week with fellow power lifters, all of whom are over age 50. They call themselves the Bench Hogs and they do routine workouts at Westminster's Gold's Gym.

Bixler, 53, said the group likes to get together to prepare for upcoming contests. "We all like to compete and we all feel the same way," Bixler said.

Joy is most known for his power lifting talent, but his accomplishments don't stop there. He also enjoys playing horseshoes, shooting pool, competing in the Senior Olympics and pitching for the Thunderbirds of Woodbine Recreation League, a team he's played with for more than 20 years.

In the Senior Olympics, Joy has won more than 50 medals in the shot put, discus, softball throw and race walk. He also holds the 70-over record for the shot put and he is the lone county resident to win both a state and national Senior Olympics Softball tournament.

Bixler said lifting makes Joy capable of doing all his activities. "For a man his age he is really in good shape," said Bixler. "He's really active. I mean, he's involved in a lot."

Joy says a lot of his success is because of his consistency. "The trick to this is you can't stop lifting and being active for a couple of weeks because after that break you're back where you started," Joy said. "You just have to keep at it. I've been pretty faithful about going to the gym and lifting as much as I can."

A 42-year resident of Carroll County and a graduate of Westminster High, Joy is active in the community as well as in sports. Although all his activities may seem overwhelming, he has no intentions of stopping.

Joy is scheduled for another competition in Hagerstown next month and he plans to compete in two more by the end of the year.

Bixler said he hopes he'll still be lifting at that age. There's not too many people that can lift at his age," Bixler said. "When you think about his age and you think about what he's doing, that's really something."

JACQUELINE G. WILSON HONORED

Submitted by Alan J. Saperstein

One of the highlights of the Hunter College of the City of New York Alumni Weekend (May 5-6, 2006) was the presentation of three special Alumni Association awards. One of them was given to our own alumni member Jacqueline G. Wilson, who previously served as the Deputy Regional Administrator in the New York Region. The citation read:

Jacqueline G. Wilson has had a successful career in the area of health professions. In 1972 she was an original member of the selection committee for the Hunter College Hall of Fame, and in 1979 she was inducted into the Hall of Fame herself. She served as president of the Alumni Association from 2002-2005, is an active member of the Wistarians Chapter, and continues her devotion to her alma mater through her involvement with the Hunter College Mentoring Program.

2007 MEDICARE PART B PREMIUM

Most seniors will have to pay 5.6 percent more for basic Medicare coverage next year, officials have announced. But premiums for more affluent beneficiaries will increase by as much as 83 percent, because the federal government for the first time will require wealthier people to pay more. About 1.5 million of the 42 million Americans on Medicare will have to pay the higher premiums based on income, a change instituted by Congress as part of the 2003 law that created the Medicare drug benefit program.

The standard monthly premium for Medicare Part B, which covers doctor visits and outpatient hospital care will rise to \$93.50 from \$88.50 this year, said CMS Administrator Mark B. McClellan. The Part B deductible will be \$131.00. Individuals with an annual income of more than \$80,000 (or more than \$160,000 for married couples) will pay monthly premiums of \$106.00, \$124.70, \$143.40 or \$162.10, depending on their income, with single individuals with incomes over \$200,000 or couples over \$400,000 paying the \$162.10. Beneficiaries below the income threshold pay 25 percent of the cost. By the end of a three-year transition period, those with high annual incomes will pay 35, 50, 65 or 80 percent of the total cost of Part B coverage.

FEHB RATES FOR 2007

Fedweek.com advises that Premium Rates will Rise 1.8 Percent in the calendar 2007 plan year, the smallest increase in 10 years, OPM has announced, on Average in the FEHB Program. The annual hikes have been lessening in recent years since a peak of a 12.7 percent increase for the 2002 plan year; the actual average for the 2006 plan year was 6.6 percent. Within the average is variation, however, with some plans including the large Blue Cross standard option decreasing slightly. The number of available plans will increase by a net of five to 284, after new entries and the dropout of ten small plans that together have about 4,500 enrollees. In addition, some continuing plans are adding new options or expanding coverage areas. The open season for joining FEHB or changing coverage will run November 13-December 11. That open season also will be the first opportunity to enroll in the new dental and vision insurance program.

DENTAL-VISION PLAN UPDATE

Fedweek reports that OPM has said that the government will conduct an extensive informational campaign this autumn on the upcoming Federal Dental and Vision Insurance Program. Employees and annuitants will be able to enroll during an open season that will run concurrent with the FEHB open season November 13-December 11, and coverage will begin December 31. Enrollments can be conducted through an online web site or by calling a toll-free number and speaking to a program representative. Employees will pay premiums with pre-tax money and employees with health care flexible spending accounts will be able to submit dental/vision co-payments and deductibles as eligible expenses against their FSA account. Although retirees will not be able to pay premiums with pre-tax money, they will be able to have the premiums deducted from their pension.

The OPM announcement noted, as did earlier information on the program, that FEDVIP will be strictly voluntary, with eligible persons free to take vision or dental benefits, both, or neither, and that there will be no government contributions. Eligibility for active employees will depend on eligibility for FEHB, but not actual FEHB enrollment, **although all retirees will be eligible regardless of FEHB eligibility.** Some of the plans will be offered by the same health insurance companies that offer FEHB plans but individuals enrolled in the FEHB plans will be free to enroll in other dental and/or vision plans if they want. For FEHB plans that provide vision or dental benefits, that plan would act as first payer, with FEDVIP secondary. There will be no pre-existing conditions limitations, although there may be waiting periods for some orthodontic benefits.

Federal employees and retirees will have to do some homework to determine which dental and vision options best fit their needs, of course. But OPM briefing materials provided a snapshot of the program's design and the options offered by 10 vendors. The only service that will not be available to enrollees right away is orthodontia.

When enrolling, federal employees and retirees will select one of three options: self-only coverage; self plus one, for the enrollee and a family member (the "one" must be someone who would be eligible for FEHB coverage as a family member); and self and family, for eligible

family members (such as unmarried, dependent children under 22). By law, the government cannot provide a subsidy for the new benefits, but enrollees who stay in dental and vision networks will have lower costs.

OPM has awarded contracts to providers for the Federal Dental and Vision Insurance Program, or FEDVIP. Aetna Life Insurance Company, Government Employees Hospital Association, Inc., MetLife Inc., United Concordia Companies, Inc., Group Health, Inc., CompBenefits, and Triple-S, Inc. will offer dental benefits and BlueCross BlueShield Association, Spectera, Inc., and Vision Service Plan will offer vision benefits. For dental coverage, there are four national carriers, two of which have high and standard options, and three regional carriers. For vision coverage, all three plans will be national, each with high and standard options. The two types of coverage will be separate, and an individual will be allowed to enroll in one, both or neither.

One of the 10 vendors, MetLife, will offer two dental options, high and standard. The high option, the OPM said, will provide the highest per-person maximum benefit of any nationwide provider -- \$3,000 per person annually. Orthodontia will be covered after a two-year waiting period, with a \$1,500-per-person lifetime maximum under the standard option.

Another vendor, CompBenefits, a dental-health maintenance organization, will provide coverage in the District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia and most of Maryland. There are fixed co-payments for each service, regardless of the amount of the charge. The plan has no benefit maximum, but it does not offer an out-of-network benefit in most areas. It also has no lifetime maximum for orthodontia.

We mention these two plans only because one offers the highest per person maximum benefit and the other offers coverage in the area where most federal retirees reside. The HCFA/CMS Alumni Association is not endorsing any plan over any other and is not making any recommendation for or against signing up for dental or vision coverage.

Varying by plan, dental benefits include: (1) Preventive and diagnostic services are covered in full, or with a \$10 copay, such as: prophylaxis; oral evaluations; diagnostic evaluations; sealants; and X-rays. (2) Intermediate services and periodontal and endodontic services with enrollee cost obligations ranging from 20 to 45 percent, such as: restorative procedures such as fillings; prefabricated stainless steel crowns; periodontal scaling; routine extractions; and denture adjustments. (3) Major services including restorative dentistry and prosthetics, with enrollee cost obligations ranging from 50 to 65 percent, such as: root canals; periodontal services such as gingivectomy; major restorative services such as crowns, oral surgery, bridges; and prosthodontic services such as complete dentures. (4) Orthodontia, with enrollee cost obligations ranging from 50 to 70 percent, subject to up to a 24-month waiting period. Per-person deductibles range from \$0 to \$75.

Varying by plan, vision benefits include: comprehensive vision services; discounts on laser vision correction; repair and replacement of frames or lenses for one year from date of delivery; coverage for elective and medically necessary contact lenses; prosthetic eye replacement; and eye health management programs.

Some federal employee health insurance plans cover some dental and vision services. That will serve as the first payer for services, and the new dental-vision program will be secondary. Dental and vision enrollees will be asked to provide information on their medical insurance plan to help coordinate benefits.

BENEFIT FLEXIBILITY FOR PANDEMIC FLU

Fedweek.com reports that OPM has said it expects providers of certain federal benefits to exercise flexibility in the event of a pandemic flu outbreak, part of the agency's planning for the government's internal reaction to such an event. In a benefits administration letter OPM said, for example, that it expects: FEHB fee-for-service carriers to relax certain provisions such as their pre-certification requirement the plan must be notified within two business days of an emergency admission; fee-for-service carriers and HMOs to relax requirements about notification and levels of benefit payment if victims are taken to non-plan and/or non PPO hospitals or other treatment centers; and all carriers to make certain FEHB members get additional supplies of medications as backup for emergency situations if necessary.

OPM also said that the FEGLI program "will apply expedited procedures used successfully in the past. In the event of a pandemic, an alert will be sent to agencies, giving details of expedited procedures (such as payment of applicable life insurance benefits without a death certificate)."

HEALTH CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY

A health care power of attorney, sometimes known as a health care proxy or a medical power of attorney, should be part of your estate plan, says Fedweek.com. This document names an agent to make decisions about your medical treatment if you become unable to do so.

The agent named in your health care power does not have to be the same person that you name as agent for a "regular" power of attorney, one that affects your finances. For your health care power, you should select someone in your family who is a medical professional or someone you trust to see that you get all necessary care. Financial expertise is not required.

Depending on state law, a health care power may have to be signed in the presence of two qualified witnesses, and it might have to be notarized. It may go into effect when a doctor (whom you can name) states in writing that you lack the ability to make or communicate health care decisions.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark B. McClellan, MD, PhD resigned from the position of Administrator of CMS effective October 14, 2006.

Leslie V. Norwalk, Esq. has been appointed to the position of Acting Administrator of CMS

effective with the departure of Mark B. McClellan, MD, PhD. Ms. Norwalk has been with CMS for five years and has been the Acting Director of the Centers for Beneficiary Choices, Chief Operating Officer and most recently Deputy Administrator in her previous positions.

Herb Kuhn has agreed to serve as the Deputy Administrator of CMS. Mr. Kuhn has been the Director of the Center for Medicare Management (CMM) for the past two years.

Andrew (Roger) Perez has been selected as the permanent Atlanta Regional Administrator (RA). Since August 1, 2005, he has been serving as the Acting Atlanta RA and is CMS' champion for implementing Part D with the States and promoting Medicaid reforms that improve the quality and efficiency of care. Prior to August 2005, Roger was the Deputy Regional Administrator in the Dallas Regional Office where he led national initiatives such as quality of care, fraud and abuse, access to services for underserved populations, and outreach and education to the provider community. Roger has over 28 years of experience in health and human services programs, including Medicaid Quality Control, Survey and Certification, and Quality Review Organizations. In 1998 and again in 2002, Roger served as the Acting Regional Administrator for the Boston Regional CMS office.

Alan Constantian will be serving as the Acting Regional Administrator in the Seattle Regional Office. Alan joined CMS in May 2005 as the Deputy Director of the Medicare Contractor Management Group (MCMG), Center for Medicare Management. Prior to joining CMS, Alan served in the Air Force Medical Service in various roles, including both operational roles in hospitals and policy roles at both the Air Force Surgeon General's Office and at the TRICARE Management Activity. Alan also served as the Chief Information Officer at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, the Air Force's largest medical facility.

Chris Klots has agreed to serve as Acting Deputy Director of the MCMG.

Sally Good-Burton, just joining CMS, has been appointed to the SES position of Director, Enterprise Architecture and Strategy Group (EASG) in the Office of Information Services (OIS). She will be responsible for leading the special Chief Information Officer (CIO) and enterprise information technology (IT) Governance functions (enterprise architecture, security accreditation, IT budget formulation and strategic planning, contracting/acquisitions and standards and policies). She has over 18 years of experience in IT governance functions and has held senior level IT positions at the following Federal agencies: the Department of the Interior (DOI), the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Social Security Administration. She has a Masters' degree in Public Administration from the University of Baltimore, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Indiana University, and a CIO Certificate from the National Defense University.

Frank Cipolloni has been selected for the SES Director, Enterprise Databases Group (EDG), position within the Office of Information Services. He has worked for CMS since 1996 and has over 30 years of experience in technical and systems management. He has been serving as the Acting Director, EDG since September 2005. Prior to serving as the Acting Director, EDG, Frank served as the Senior Technical Advisor for EDG and led the design and implementation of a Privacy and Accountability system. This system supports the capture of recipients of the

beneficiary's extracted data, and upon request, delivers the beneficiary a report stating who received the data, when it was sent, and the reason the data was requested. As a Senior Database Administrator, Frank architected and implemented a National Data Base to support Medicare and Medicaid research and analysis. As the Director, EDG, Frank will continue to provide executive direction and leadership on CMS' Enterprise databases modernization and management projects and provide agency-wide change leadership for the crucial enterprise database management component of the Agency's data systems. Frank will also have overall executive leadership for implementing the new CMS Integrated Data Repository.

MEDICAID INTEGRITY GROUP

A new organization within CMS, the Medicaid Integrity Group (MIG), has been created to be responsible for organizing and executing a program to reduce fraud, waste and abuse in the Medicaid program. The Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005 created the Medicaid Integrity Program (MIP), which will report directly to the Director of CMSO. This is the first ever comprehensive and meaningful approach to combating misuse of Medicaid funds that are intended to care for the 55 million vulnerable Americans who depend on it for their healthcare.

The MIG will be led by an experienced senior manager and will consist of three divisions: the Division of Medicaid Integrity Contracting; the Division of Field Operations; and, the Division of Fraud Research and Detection.

The Division of Medicaid Integrity Contracting will be responsible for the procurement, oversight and evaluation of the contractors that will review provider activities, conduct audits and identify overpayments. The Division of Field Operations will work closely with the new contractors and will provide support and assistance to states' efforts in the form of technical assistance, training, and best practices. This Division will also be responsible for the oversight of state program integrity efforts. The Division of Fraud Research and Detection will provide research, statistical and data support both to the Medicaid Integrity Program and the states, identify current and emerging fraud trends, and conduct special studies as appropriate.

The new group is building into its operating plan strong, ongoing communication and coordination with key partners. Collaboration with OFM's Program Integrity Group, with particular emphasis on the national expansion of the Medicare-Medicaid Data Match project, better known as "Medi-Medi," and the Medicaid Payment Error Rate Measurement project. Other strategic partners include state Medicaid officials and Federal and state law enforcement agencies. The dynamic nature of fraud makes it essential that we coordinate closely with our strategic partners if we are to succeed.

A number of acting appointments to leadership positions in the new group have been made:

Nan Foster Reilly, who has done an outstanding job heading up the MIP planning and development group, has agreed to serve as the Acting Director of the MIG. Nan's position of record is Associate Regional Administrator (ARA) for Medicare Operations in the Kansas City Regional Office. She has also been the Chief of the Medicaid Branch and has done stints as the Acting ARA for Medicaid and State Operations and three details here at CMS central office.

Prior to joining CMS, she spent 13 years with the Iowa Department of Human Services in a variety of leadership positions. Clearly, her experience is both broad and substantive. Nan brings strong leadership and management credentials to this very demanding position and I am delighted that she has agreed to take it on.

Robb Miller will be the Acting Director of the Division of Field Operations, operating out of the Chicago Regional Office. While Robb has only been with CMS for about a year and a half, he brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the agency in the area of program integrity. Most notably, Robb served as the Illinois Inspector General for 11 years and ran a substantial and highly regarded program integrity operation in one of our largest states, directing the work of over 300 employees. Robb is also one of the original members of the Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and, as such, has been working with other states and CMS headquarters staff for approximately 10 years. There are few people in the country with better credentials in this field than Robb Miller and CMS will be the stronger for it.

Paul Miner will assume the role of Acting Director of the Division of Fraud Research and Detection. Paul has been a leader in Medicaid program integrity for the last 10 years. He brings a good deal of experience working with states, as well as law enforcement components. He established the Medicaid Fraud and Abuse TAG as a means of providing a forum for state PI directors to share ideas, problems, best practices, etc. He also is a co-creator of the Medi-Medi project. He brings considerable knowledge, experience and insight to the table and is a welcome addition to the new MIG's leadership team.

George Mills has been appointed to serve as Acting Regional Administrator in the Denver Regional Office, replacing Alex Trujillo, who retired on July 31, 2006. George is a recent graduate of the Health and Human Services Senior Executive Development Program (HHS SES CDP). George served as the Deputy Director of the Financial Services Group in the Office of Financial Management since May 2003, and prior to that he was the Director of the Division of Methods and Strategy in the Program Integrity Group. George also performed some rotational assignments including Acting Director of the Employer Policy and Operations Group in CBC, and served as a member of the Health Division at the Executive Office of the President in the Office of Management and Budget. George has a Masters degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois-Chicago, and began his career at CMS in the Chicago Regional Office. A "die-hard" Baltimore Ravens football fan, George's biggest challenge will be showing his support for his newly adopted team. Go Broncos!

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES (OIS)

The importance of information technology is being stressed with some organizational changes in OIS.

Julie Boughn has been appointed Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Director of the Office of Information Services. She has been the Acting CIO and Director, OIS, since May 2006. Previously, she was the Director of the Information Services Modernization Group. Before joining CMS Julie worked for the Social Security Administration as a Branch Chief and a Supervisory Computer Specialist. She has a Master of Science degree in Information Systems

and Technology from Johns Hopkins University and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Maryland.

Julie will also oversee the new internal organizational changes required to support the Agency's evolving IT mission. Reflecting a comprehensive review of the functional demands and expanded scope of our IT systems, the new OIS structure consolidates and transfers IT activities into the following five groups:

The Enterprise Architecture and Strategy Group (EASG) consolidates the special Chief Information Officer (CIO) and enterprise IT Governance functions (enterprise architecture, security accreditation, IT investment management, contracting/acquisitions and standards and policies) into one group.

The Business Applications Management Group (BAMG) is responsible for the development and maintenance of software applications including the management of fee-for service (FFS) claims processing applications and beneficiary related applications.

The Information Services Design and Development Group (ISDDG) focuses on two major areas: MA and Part D operations support and new systems development. This group continues to support the critical development and operations of various MA and Part D systems.

The Enterprise Databases Group (EDG) provides operations support with a focus on strategic data resource planning to meet future program needs. EDG also manages the activities to build, implement, and maintain an IDR to support enterprise-wide information and data management.

The Enterprise Data Center Group (EDCG) manages the development and operations of the CMS Enterprise Data Center for all software applications and databases. This group is also responsible for the helpdesk problem management, customer support, and outreach activities, and the management of the Agency's information infrastructure.

Several Senior Executive Service appointments have also been made within (OIS). These SES members will support the Agency's information technology vision and implement OIS' expanded technology responsibilities under the Medicare Modernization Act.

Wally Fung will continue to serve as CMS' Chief Technology Officer (CTO) with responsibility for advising CMS senior officials on advanced technical matters relating to the development, evaluation, and utilization of information technologies. Prior to coming to CMS in July 2002, Wally was the IRS' Deputy Director for Modernization Security. Wally also served as the Deputy Chief Information Officer for Treasury's Financial Management Service. He received Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Engineering, and a Master's degree in Business Administration, all from the University of California at Berkeley.

Reginald McFadden has joined CMS as the Director, Enterprise Data Center Group, OIS. He will manage the development, implementation and operations of the CMS Enterprise Data Centers. He will also oversee transition planning and implementation, development of the Common Enterprise Infrastructure, capacity planning, customer support and outreach activities,

and will manage the Agency's enterprise infrastructure. Previously, he was the Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer at IRS. He received his Bachelor's degree in Engineering from West Point, a Master's degree in Business Administration from University of Houston Clear Lake and a Master's of Information Engineering from Southern University of New York.

Cathy Carter has been appointed Director, Business Applications and Management Group, OIS. She will be responsible for the development, testing, maintenance, operations, and systems exception processing related to software applications supporting fee-for-service (FFS) claims processing, cost report analysis, Medicare appeals, and several key beneficiary-related applications. Previously, she was the Director of the Business Standards and Systems Operations Group, OIS. Cathy's career at HCFA/CMS spans 30 years including over 21 years of experience managing various FFS and related aspects of the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Timothy Stitely has been appointed Director, Information Services Design and Development Group, OIS. He will provide executive leadership in two major areas: MA and Part D operations support and new systems development. Tim is a 2004 HHS SES Candidate Development Program (CDP) graduate and has been with CMS since December 2004 as the Director, Division of Systems Transitions and Testing. Prior to participating in the HHS SES CDP, Tim served as Senior Information Technology Advisor to the Scientific Director at the National Institutes of Health. He holds a Master's of Science degree in information technology from the University of Maryland University College.

Frank Cipolloni will continue to serve as the Director, Enterprise Databases Group (EDG), OIS. Frank will oversee operations support with a focus on strategic data resource planning to meet future program needs. Prior to serving as the Director, EDG, Frank served as the Senior Technical Advisor for EDG. Frank has a Bachelor of Science degree in Management (Data Processing) from the University of Baltimore.

Debra McKeldin has been appointed Deputy Director, Enterprise Architecture and Strategy Group (EASG), and will also serve as Acting Director until a permanent Director is appointed. EASG is responsible for consolidating the special Chief Information Officer (CIO) and enterprise IT Governance functions (enterprise architecture, security accreditation, IT investment management, contracting/acquisitions and standards and policies) into one group. She was previously the CMS Chief Enterprise Architect. She has also served as the Deputy Director of the Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from Towson State University and a Master's Degree from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland.

Gary Kavanagh, after many years of service in OIS, has begun an assignment as a Senior Advisor in the Office of the Chief Operating Officer. Since October 2005, Gary has managed the CMS Data Center and all CMS IT infrastructure contracts including telecommunications. Prior to October 2005, Gary was the Director, Business Standards and Systems Operations Group, OIS. He has a Master of Arts degree from George Washington University and a Bachelor of Science degree from Towson University.

NEW SES APPOINTMENTS WITHIN CENTER FOR BENEFICIARY CHOICES

Anthony Culotta has been appointed Director, Medicare Enrollment and Appeals Group (MEAG). He has been serving as Acting Director since August 2004. Before becoming the Acting Director, MEAG, Mr. Culotta served as the Associate Director, Health Plan Policy Group.

Cynthia Tudor has been appointed Director, Medicare Drug Benefit Group (MDBG). She has served as the Deputy Director of MDBG since its inception in June 2004 and as Acting Director since September 2005. Prior to July 2004, Dr. Tudor served as the Director, Division of Program Analysis and Performance Management (DPAPM).

Thomas Hutchinson has been selected as Director, Medicare Plan Payment Group (MPPG). He has served as Acting Director of MPPG since March 2006. Previously, he was the Acting Group Director for the Medicare Plan Policy Group within CBC. In addition, from July 2001 to July 2004, Mr. Hutchinson served as the Director, Division of Plan Policy. Prior to coming to CMS in 1991, Mr. Hutchinson served as the Director, Department of Aging, for Catholic Charities in Oakland, CA.

In conjunction with the selection of the division directors for MEAG, MDBG, and MPPG, **Danielle Moon, Tracey McCutcheon, and Cheri Rice** have moved permanently into the deputy director positions in those divisions.

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Janet Vogel has been appointed Director, Financial Management Systems Group (FMSG) within the Office of Financial Management. She has been serving as the Director, Healthcare Integrated General Ledger Accounting System (HIGLAS) Program Office (HPO) since April 2005. Prior to serving as the Director, HPO, Janet served as the Director of the Technical Configuration Group. She has also held information systems leadership positions within the Department of Treasury, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Agency for International Development for over 26 years.

COMEDY KORNER

LOST SPOUSE

Two old guys were pushing their carts around Wal-Mart when they collided. The first old guy said to the second guy, "Sorry about that. I'm looking for my wife, and I guess I wasn't paying attention to where I was going."

The second old guy said, "That's OK, it's a coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too. I can't find her and I'm getting a little desperate."

The first old guy said, "Well, maybe I can help you find her. What does she look like?"

The second old guy said, "Well, she is 27 years old, tall, with red hair, blue eyes, long legs, big bust, and is wearing short shorts. What does your wife look like?"

To which the first old guy said, "Doesn't matter, let's look for yours."

TIME LIMITED PRESCRIPTION

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."

THE OPERATION!

An older Jewish gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation.

As he was about to get the anesthesia he asked to speak to his son.

"Yes, Dad, what is it?"

"Don't be nervous, son; do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife."

STATEMENTS ABOUT AGING

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ah, being young is beautiful,
but being old is comfortable.

Old age is when former classmates are so gray and wrinkled and bald, they don't recognize you.

If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you are old.

First you forget names, then you forget faces.
Then you forget to pull up your zipper.
It's worse when you forget to pull it down.

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft.
Today, it's called golf!

SENIOR DRESS CODE

Many of us "Middle Folks" (those over 60, WAY over 60, or hovering near 60) are quite confused about how we should present ourselves. We're unsure about the kind of image we are projecting and whether or not we are correct as we try to conform to current fashions. Despite what you may have seen on the streets, the following combinations DO NOT go together and should be avoided:

1. A nose ring and bifocals
2. Spiked hair and bald spots
3. A pierced tongue and dentures
4. Miniskirts and support hose
5. Ankle bracelets and corn pads
6. Speedo's and cellulite
7. A belly button ring and a gall bladder surgery scar
8. Unbuttoned disco shirts and a heart monitor
9. Midriff shirts and a midriff bulge
10. Bikinis and liver spots
11. Short shorts and varicose veins
12. Inline skates and a walker
- And last, but not least . . my personal favorite:
13. Thongs and Depends

Please keep these basic guidelines foremost in your mind when you shop!

OBITUARIES

J. PATRICK MCCARTHY

Submitted by Dan Boyle

J. Patrick McCarthy, 81, a retired health-care administrator with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, died of cancer July 16 at Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington. He was a longtime Arlington resident.

Mr. McCarthy was born in Hinton, W.Va., and served with the Army Air Forces during World War II, completing 35 combat missions as a gunner and aerial photographer.

At Virginia Tech, where he received a bachelor's degree in 1949, he was a member of a dance band called the Southern Colonels. He received a master's degree in psychology and counseling from West Virginia University in 1951 and a second master's degree in public health, specializing in medical care administration, from the University of Michigan in 1961.

He had worked as a parole officer in West Virginia and as director of operations for the state's medical assistance programs, before moving to Washington in 1961 to take a position with the U.S. Bureau of Public Assistance. He was among the earliest officials involved with the federal Medicaid program, serving in various capacities. He was there when the Act was passed in 1965, when the entire Medicaid organization was one small division in the Bureau of Family Services (BFS). Carel Mulder, from California was the Division Director. The division had three branches, one for planning, one for management, and one for evaluation. Pat was chief of the Evaluation Branch. Federal agencies responsible for Medicaid during Pat's tenure were the Bureau of Family Services, the Welfare Administration, the Social and Rehabilitation Service, and the Health Care Financing Administration.

He also worked with members of Congress on health-policy legislation and retired in 1988 as director of Medicare contracts.

In retirement, he enjoyed travel, woodworking and building clocks. He was a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Arlington.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Janice H. McCarthy of Arlington; five daughters, Kathleen Gauss of Arlington, Maeve Myers of Falls Church, Siobhan Covington of McLean, Megan Padden of Parkersburg, W.Va., and Tara Stone of Cos Cob, Conn.; and 10 grandchildren.

(Compiled from the obituary in the Washington Post and recollections of Dan Boyle)

LUISA V. IGLESIAS

94; Key Developer of Rules For Medicare, Medicaid

By Yvonne Shinhoster Lamb
Washington Post Staff Writer
Sunday, October 1, 2006

Luisa V. Iglesias, 94, who as senior regulations specialist for the Medicare and Medicaid programs oversaw the drafting of major regulations, died Sept. 16 of congestive heart failure at Southern Maryland Hospital Center in Clinton. She lived in Suitland.

Ms. Iglesias headed a public assistance program in Puerto Rico before joining the old U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1963. Two years later, Medicare and Medicaid were created, and over the course of her 37-year career, they grew into two of the largest and most heavily relied-upon federal benefit programs.

Ms. Iglesias was intimately involved with the drafting and dissemination of regulations, in the early years as the sole Medicaid regulations specialist and later as senior specialist for both programs.

She also was a born teacher who mentored scores of regulations specialists and program attorneys, said Sondra Stigen Wallace, associate general counsel for legislation.

"Her great skill and exacting standards, both as a regulations writer and as a teacher of others, made her contribution invaluable," said Wallace, who had known Ms. Iglesias since 1976.

"She was an amazing lady," Wallace added, noting that Ms. Iglesias -- who stood 4 feet 8 inches tall and had a voice that made one think of a rusting gate -- didn't mind "holding people's feet to the fire and demanding excellence in regulations."

Ms. Iglesias retired in 2000 at age 88. Her awards include individual citations from several administrators of the Health Care Financing Administration, the Medicare-Medicaid agency. She also was singled out by HCFA in 2000 for recognition as one of the "significant women in the new millennium."

A native of Albany, N.Y., Ms. Iglesias grew up in New York state and Puerto Rico. She graduated *cum laude* from New York State Teachers College in Albany in 1933, received a master's degree in social service administration from the University of Chicago in 1942 and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Puerto Rico in 1962.

After a brief period teaching high school English in Puerto Rico, Ms. Iglesias received a social work certificate from the University of Puerto Rico in 1938 and began a 25-year career with the Puerto Rico Department of Health. She held a number of positions of increasing responsibility in programs addressing disabled children's programs, community - and hospital-based social services and compliance with child labor laws.

From 1945 to 1958, she was chief of the Bureau of Public Assistance, in charge of the cash assistance and social services programs for needy children and families throughout Puerto. Her final post with the Puerto Rico Health Department was on the select committee responsible for planning and overseeing a major reorganization of the department.

In 1963, the family moved to Washington and in 1965 to Suitland.

Ms. Iglesias was an inspired rose gardener, who often presented friends and family with a perfect rose in their favorite color. She also was a lover of ballet, classical music and drama, and she swam daily into her nineties.

An inveterate world traveler, she visited every continent but Antarctica. In the first years after retirement, she traveled to Malaysia and Japan, the Mediterranean and Northern Europe.

Her marriage to Santiago De Jesus Burgos ended in divorce.

Survivors include two sons, Victor De Jesus of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and Carlos De Jesus of Suitland; four grandsons; a granddaughter; and a great-grandson.

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IN MEMORIAM

**The Alumni Association respectfully acknowledges
the passing of the following
Alumni/Employees/Spouses and expresses its
sympathy to family members:**

THADDEUS BRODA (8/14/06)*

ADRIAN K. COMPA (7/6/06)**

EVA F. DAVIS (3/8/06)*

LUISA V. IGLESIAS (9/16/06)*

ELIZABETH KOFRON (9/13/06)***

HANNA GELDRICH-LEFFMAN (8/6/06)****

J. PATRICK MCCARTHY (7/16/06)*

CHARLES OWENS, JR. (6/11/06) *

DAVID WORG0 (7/24/06)*****

*HCFA or CMS Retiree (Central Office)

** HCFA Retiree (NY RO)

*** Mother of CMS Employee & Alumni Member Pat Pierorazio

**** Spouse of HCFA Retiree Peter Leffman

*****CMS Employee (Central Office)

**If you are aware of any other deaths of Alumni please notify the editorial staff
October 2006**