

Treasure Coast Chapter
ANCHOR NEWS



Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and St. Lucie
counties

April 2006

Everyone's Invited
Treasure Coast Chapter Meeting
Thursday, April 13, 2006
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Recipe for Success

"The Ingredients for Running a Successful Medical Transcription Service"

Speaker: Miguel Lopez
Transcript, Inc.
CEO/President, Founder

Where: Palm Beach Community College
Lake Worth Campus
ETA building, room 248

What a medical transcription service owner is:

Medical transcriptionist. Business owner. Advertising specialist. Marketing maverick. Billing, invoices, and collections. Director of human resources. Administrative assistant. Payroll administrator. Quality assurance manager. Contract negotiator.

Not many MTs have a degree in business. Our speaker does, and he's not a medical transcriptionist. Come meet Miguel and learn to see your business through the eyes of a businessman, not an MT. A different perspective can often reveal the obvious.

Miguel Lopez was a college student looking for a job when he came upon a clerical position for a medical transcription service. Since then, he worked many facets of our industry while obtaining 2 degrees in business, a BA and an MBA. Now he's applied his experience and education to his own medical transcription service. How did he do it? What would he change if he had to do it over again? *Would* he do it over again? What are the great difficulties he encounters business wise? How does he handle them? Are they the same as yours? Is a business plan really that important?

Directions:

From I-95: Exit 6th Ave South and go west to Congress Avenue. Turn north and go to Lake Worth Road. Turn right on Lake Worth Road and go to the stoplight entrance of PBCC and turn right. ETA buildings are on your immediate right. Room 248. **Do not park in reserved; you will be ticketed.**

From Turnpike: Exit Lake Worth Road. Go east until just past Congress Avenue to the stoplight entrance into PBCC, turn right. ETA buildings are on your immediate right. Room 248. **Do not park in reserved; you will be ticketed.**

Contact Information



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Vallie Piloian, CMT, FAAMT

AAMT Website
www.aamt.org

Treasure Coast Chapter – AAMT Newsletter Advertising

The Treasure Coast Chapter is a local component of the American Association for Medical Transcription (AAMT) that includes Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, and Okeechobee counties in Florida. The chapter newsletter, Anchor News, is published monthly/as needed and distributed to chapter members and associates by e-mail, the postal service. It can also be accessed through our website via the national association's website, www.aamt.org/ca/tcc/.

Advertising from those in the medical transcription industry is welcomed and greatly appreciated. Ads may be black and white, camera ready or a computer file in .jpg, .bmp, or MS Word format. Send the ad and payment to the newsletter editor.

Deirdre Safikhani
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Advertising rates per issue: Full Page \$30.00
Half Page \$15.00
Quarter Page \$7.00
Business Card \$5.00



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring has sprung, and TCC is raring to go. We have an exciting year planned for all of our TCC members and their guests. The calendar of events is enclosed; keep it handy so you can enjoy all the TCC events we have planned for this year.

On April 13th, we will be holding our third general membership meeting for 2006. We are holding it at PBCC in Lake Worth. It is an evening meeting. Miguel Lopez will be our speaker. He will be speaking to us about running a transcription business. Miguel is a very entertaining speaker besides sharing with us valuable information.

Our board is still hoping to fill the position of secretary for 2006. It is available to any TCC MT practitioner and now also students. If any one is interested, please do not hesitate to contact any board member, even if you would just like to have more information to help you decide. We welcome all inquiries.

May is going to be an exciting month. Our chapter will be celebrating MT week with a special luncheon. FAMT has their annual meeting that month, which includes an evening cruise. AAMT will be going back to Washington, D.C. for Lobby Day.

As you can see, there is a lot to participate in during this coming year, I am hoping that all of you become as excited as I am about the upcoming events. The FAMT annual meeting is a fun time besides getting down to business. Anyone interested please contact one of our board members, and we will help you get to that meeting anyway we can.

Looking forward to meeting all of you at our April meeting at PBCC.

Lee Efthyvoulou
President TCC 2006

Tidbits

Two websites of interest submitted by Lauri Rebar, CMT, a current student of library studies. She has learned that librarians love to share their knowledge as much as medical transcriptionists do!

- <http://lii.org/>
- <http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art35627.asp>

FAMT (Florida Association for Medical Transcription) Annual Meeting

A state meeting of medical transcriptionists upcoming in May and being held in Cape Canaveral, Florida. Go to the state association's website to download information and registration packets. There are 40+ vendors, a slate of fantastic speakers, an evening cruise, business breakfast, and an awards banquet followed by a party. This is one gathering of MTs you don't want to miss! www.fl-amt.org

TREASURE COAST CHAPTER ~ FAMT / AAMT
CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT
APRIL 2006

Having nearly completed the first quarter of 2006, our Chapter is being active with trying to complete the plans to keep us afloat the rest of this year. We are also hoping to provide continuing support for the members of the recently discontinued Gold Coast Chapter as well. Your Board of Directors has the desire and the ambition to guide TCC forward, keeping up with all the changes and proposed changes that AAMT has announced for the future. Try thinking of a name for what you do other than "medical transcriptionist" ...there is a task force developing this theme, Peggy Doyle, our membership chair, is a member of that task force. If you have any ideas of what else we/you should be called please submit those ideas to her. There is much discussion on this subject going on nationally and even globally, as we are no longer just the American Association...! You have the resources to follow this activity through the journals you are receiving monthly and quarterly, and also by keeping watch on the on-line communications regarding these issues. Certification as a professional is going to be more of a future requirement as the Associations all press for recognition by employers, and new methods and requirements for obtaining certification are available by contacting the AAMT website. We need to be always looking for more ways to add to the education and understanding needed to correctly provide the services that we participate toward patient care. This is the second year that members are participating in Lobby Days in Washington, D.C...making the legislators aware of this industry we supply, and providing education in those areas. What an opportunity. **Now** we get to be the educators. If you are interested in participating in this year's activities please do contact Carolyn Grimes, MS, CMT, RHIA, FAAMT who is leading for the South Florida area: carollynckg@mindspring.com. There will be opportunities to share lodging, travel, and more information on this can be obtained on the AAMT website. The date is coming up, May 18th, arrangements have been made for special touring of the White House as well during this visit. One interesting fact reported by 2005 attendees is that there is a Florida House in D.C. which is the only one such representation! Your planning for 2006 should also include the AAMT Annual Meeting in Boston, August 2 – 5, 2006! If you have never been to a national meeting, this should be the one for you, FAMT members present will be especially proud to participate in honoring Vallie Piloian, CMT, FAAMT as AAMT President 2006.

The FAMT Annual Meeting this year will be a super event May 4 – 7, at the Radisson Resort at the Port, Cape Canaveral. Early registration must be postmarked by April 3, and if you were a full program attendee at last year's FAMT Annual Meeting you will be getting a \$25.00 discount on this year's full registration packet! The program is planned with all of you in mind, even including fun & games! I want to remind our Treasure Coast Members of the FAMT Memorial Fund .. we have fond memories of past members including Kathy Lawler, CMT, Elaine Buchanan, CMT and just recently Dolores Duquet, CMT. The form to use for donating to this can be obtained from the recent FAMT Newsletter. Planning for FAMT Annual Meeting for 2007 is in full swing as well .. being hosted by Florida West Coast Chapter at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Tampa!

TCC is providing the decorative table centerpieces for the FAMT 2006 Annual Business Meeting! That will be on display at our next general business meeting at Palm Beach Community College, April 13, 2006. Our members are participating on the planning committee for this meeting.

Gwen A. Whittle, CMT
Chapter Representative, 2006
TCC, FAMT, AAMT

AAMT Announces Benchmark Exam for Level I and Specialty MTs

Responding to the industry need for a level-1 benchmark exam, AAMT announces the development of the Registered Medical Transcriptionist (RMT) exam. MT program graduates and working MTs with less than 2 years' experience in acute care (including single-specialty, clinic, radiology, and pathology MTs) will be eligible to sit for this exam. The exam will be launched worldwide in May or June of this year.

The Candidate Guide contains the blueprint (outline) for the exam as well as some sample questions and resources for study. You will find the Candidate Guide on the certification pages of the AAMT website. An application for the exam will also be placed on the web. In conjunction with Stedman's, the RMT Review Guide, similar to the CMT Review Guide, is currently being prepared and should be available by mid-summer. There will also be a RMT Prep Assessment Course available by OAK Horizons around the same time.

AAMT Student Alliance Information

Let me introduce myself. My name is Bethany Haynes, and I am chairperson for the AAMT Student Alliance Postgrad Advisory committee. We assist new grads with help in getting started on their new career as MTs. Our program is a success as for the numerous new grads requesting assistance. However, we are in need for advisors.

Would you or would anyone in your chapter consider this important assistance opportunity?

Thank you for your consideration. You may reach me at the email address below.

Also, if you have any students or postgrads interested in joining the AAMT Student Alliance, they can visit the website at www.aamtstudentalliance.org

Sincerely,

Bethany Haynes postgraduate@mtsources.com

A Great Medical Transcriptionist Bumper Sticker Idea

“Love a transcriptionist; unlike your family, she was there for your entire colonoscopy.”

- Jojan Carter

Speech Recognition versus human MT AKA: Machine versus Brain

- Deedee Safikhani

I do not work with speech or voice recognition personally, but I have read about it, and I know MTs who do use it. Whenever I transcribe the following terminology, I can't help but wonder how a software program can distinguish what should be transcribed like a thinking MT does.

If any of you have a response, please see page 2 for my contact information, and either write an article for our newsletter or send me an e-mail with your input, and I'll publish it next newsletter.

What is said: "Meds - C M A R."
Transcribed: "Medications: See MAR."

What is said: "Agent: 33 millicuries M D P I V"
Transcribed: "Agent: 33 mCi MDP IV."

Does speech recognition fix these dictation errors below (in red)?

PAST MEDICAL HISTORY

1. Hypertension.
2. Hypercholesterolemia.
3. Status post hysterectomy.
4. Status post appendectomy.
5. Status post cholecystectomy.
6. Status post right titanium rod for tibia/fibula fracture.
9. History of vertebroplasty at T12.
13. History of L4-L5 hemangioma.

EXTREMITIES: Femoral pulses are palpable. The left popliteal and pedal pulses are present, with strong biphasic blood flow. The dorsalis pedis on the right foot is absent; the posterior tibial signal is present but very mono...I got this backwards...the DP signal is present but very diminished and monophasic. The PT signal is not present. No gangrenous changes noted.

A Few Abbreviation Expanders Available (listed alphabetically)

Besides Autocorrect and QuickCorrect, the abbreviation expanders built into Word and WordPerfect, respectively, there are these programs available to MTs:

Abbreviate! www.sylvansoft.com
As U Type www.asutype.com
AutoHotkeyFreeware www.autohotkey.com
InstantText www.fitaly.com/
Keymaster Shorthand www.keymasters.net/shorthand.htm
SmartType www.narratek.com
SpeedType www.speedtype.com



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Contact:

Peggy Doyle at pdoyle@ositranscription.com

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