

## 48<sup>th</sup> WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

### USF INTERNAL MEDICINE & PEDIATRIC DIVISIONS OF ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

This newsletter features Ms. Catherine Renee Smith, CMA, CCRC, Head Coordinator, Clinical Research Unit (CRU), Division of Allergy and Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine.



***Catherine Renee Smith, CMA, CCRC  
Head Coordinator  
Clinical Research Unit (CRU)  
Division of Allergy and Immunology  
Department of Internal Medicine***



***Renee with colleagues, Clinical Research Unit***

***L to R: Ray Heromin, Catherine (Renee) Smith, Dr. Amber Pepper,  
Michelle Twitmyer, Tiffani Kaage***



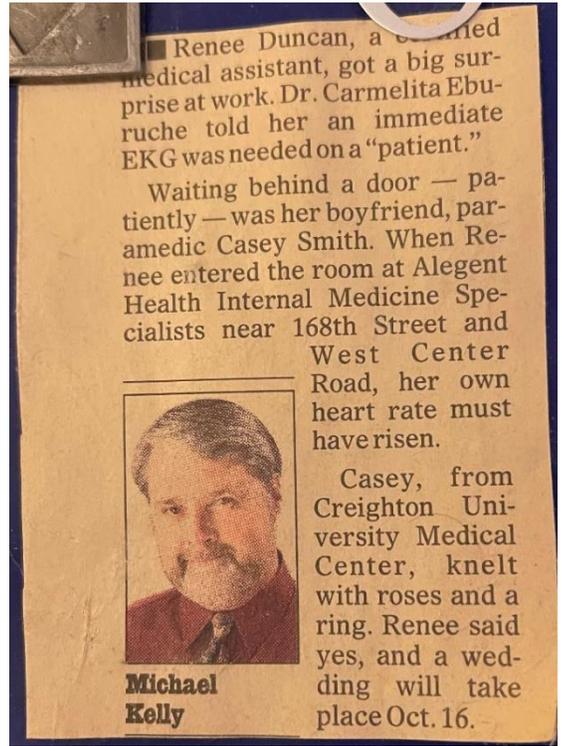
***Cooper, 2020***



***Renee and her husband, Casey, at Bok Tower Gardens, March 2021***



**Casey and Renee at Renee's nephew's wedding, Oct 2020**



**Article about Renee and Casey's engagement that ran in the Omaha World Herald Newspaper**

**Casey and Renee's dog, Cooper (Buzz Lightyear), and Tiffani's dog, Benji (Woody), at Halloween**



***From Catherine Renee Smith, CMA, CCRC:***

I was born in the Appalachian Mountains of Harlan, Kentucky, and moved to Omaha, Nebraska, when I was just seven days old. I was the youngest of five children, three sisters and a brother. Growing up, we returned to Kentucky every summer on family vacation. I attended the University of Iowa (Go Hawkeyes!) my freshman year, double majoring in Economics and Accounting. After my freshman year, I returned home and completed my medical assisting diploma through Iowa Western Community College. After obtaining my Certified Medical Assistant certification, I worked in Internal Medicine and Family Practice Clinics for Alegen HealthCare. During this time, I met my now husband, Casey, on a blind date set up by a mutual friend. In August 2003, I was sent to an exam room for an EKG on a patient. Behind the door on one knee was Casey with roses and a ring (see the attached article). We were married in October 2004 in St. John's Church on the campus of Creighton University. In 2006, I began working in the dermatology clinic of Creighton University. In 2009, I interviewed with Dr. Casale and accepted a position as a Clinical Research Coordinator in the Department of Asthma, Allergy, and Immunology. I obtained my certification as a Clinical Research Coordinator in 2012. In 2014, I accepted a Clinical Research Coordinator position at USF and moved to Florida. I became the Head Clinical Research Coordinator in 2016.

I currently live in South Tampa with my husband and four-legged child, Cooper. In my spare time, I enjoy doing puzzles with my husband, watching movies, and reading.

Renee is an integral part of the Division of Allergy and Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine. She is a dependable and valued colleague and the Clinical Research Unit thrives under her leadership. Her dedication and hard work are appreciated by all.

With warm regards,

Richard F. Lockey, MD  
Distinguished University Health Professor  
Joy McCann Culverhouse Chair in Allergy  
and Immunology  
Professor of Medicine, Pediatrics & Public Health  
Director, Division of Allergy and Immunology  
Department of Internal Medicine

Jolan Walter, MD, PhD  
Robert A. Good Endowed Chair in Immunology  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine  
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