FLORIDA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

TO: Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA) FSMA President
FSMA Executive Council

FROM: Mary Lou Allison, CMA-C (AAMA)
Alternate to AAMA

RE: Attendance Report AAMA Conference

The AAMA 59th Annual Meeting was held at the Doubletree Hotel in Portland, Oregon. As an Alternate I attended all the meetings concerning the Business of the AAMA House of Delegates.

At the orientation of Delegates and Alternates we learned to use the electronic voting machines, received an update and booklet regarding Parliamentary Procedure.

At the State Leaders conference a 4 person panel talked about innovations that their state societies have implemented and answered questions from the attendees. Of note was the Connecticut Society who is Green like FSMA where most of their reports etc. are digital. They have most of their meetings Online.. they use "Go to Meetings" , they hold 4 meetings a year, 2 are only online on Saturday mornings, and 2 are at meeting sites around the state. They use the same type of digital products as FSMA and provide online Continuing Education Free of charge as we do. They sell products through Booster.com and find it a revenue source. It was also announced that members can go onto the AAMA website and update their information online.

The FSMA had submitted our Website for the Excel Award, we did not win, but did receive a Certificate of Achievement.

Of special note, during the House of Delegates the following actions were reported by the Board of Trustees:

- AAMA is endeavoring to participate in the pilot study of the Institution for Credentialing Excellence (ICE), in which the AAMA is seeking accreditation under ISO Standardization (ISO). It establishes criteria for certification programs. ISO 17024 is a higher level of accreditation for certifying bodies.
- AAMA has entered into an alliance with the Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT), to try to bring awareness regarding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. A grant was issued by the Department of Health and Human Services and the CDC. AAMA is partnering with CASAT on this initiative because both organizations agree that medical assistants are the key links between providers and patients.
- The Certifying Board announced the removal of all time limits for graduates of CAAHEP or ABHES medical assisting programs to take the Certification Examination.

Members of the FSMA attending the Conference met with AAMA Executive Director and Legal Counsel Donald A. Balasa regarding a Public Policy issue in our state.

Thank you for the privilege of serving the FSMA as Delegate to AAMA.