Florida Society of Medical Assistants, Inc.

TO: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)
FSMA Speaker of the General Assembly

Agnes Foxall, CMA (AAMA)
FSMA Vice Speaker of the General Assembly

FROM: Ruth Lapio, CMA (AAMA)
Southwest Chapter President

RE: 2010-2011 End of Year Report

What an exciting year for our chapter. So many new challenges have come our way and our chapter is growing and extending the concept of medical assisting.
We have been actively involved with a couple of the technical institutes locally and have been diligently networking. Southwest Florida College and Charlotte County Vo Tech are supporting the AAMA through their programs. We have met with students at both places during the year to inform and answer any questions they have in reference to medical assisting through AAMA. Students are now attending our local, our state, and even our national convention. This has been an exciting year for Southwest Chapter.

Southwest has monthly meetings and still holds two seminars offering CEU's. Our CPR cert/recert was offered in November. We still strive for membership in a professional association of fellow medical assistants that will keep them abreast of changes in the daily tasks, and to keep us knowledgeable of the latest changes in the healthcare system by offering continuing education.

In supporting "going Green" our newsletter is now online. Our website for the chapter is kept current so on with new technology.

Southwest Chapter covers several counties. One of most memorable experience; is with Manatee Vocational College in Bradenton. They have expressed an interest in forming a chapter to help promote continuing education and for local involvement in their area. Being involved with this from the beginning and to see how this incorporates with the local and state levels is so exciting for our chapter.

One of our state representatives, Judy Seymour, CMA, along with Phyllis Dlugolencki, CMA; Deniece Jozefiak, CMA; and me, Ruth Lapio, CMA attended one of their first meetings at Manatee Tech Institute College. They offered CEU's and had a short organizational business

meeting in trying to comply with AAMA standards for forming a new chapter. They are a very organized and professional group and are extremely excited about the involvement of their commitment and the communities in Medical Assisting.

We have been actively thinking strategically for future endeavors on local and state levels. I find myself at the computer more now and trying to keep all the networking flowing. Our chapter members are becoming more involved and working together. We are giving ourselves an opportunity to grow and network on all levels. As put by Heidi Fortin, CMA"Let's take the opportunities in front of us and pursue the needs of our communities. So let us as Medical Assistants provide a goal, meet the goal, and strive for a future for our profession."

This has been one of the most fulfilling years for our chapter and as an officer a great experience, thanks to our profession and its members. Looking forward to future endeavors with our own Certified Medical Assistants from all over.

Closing with my usual "Let's Do It!"

Ruth Lapio, CMA (AAMA)
Southwest Chapter President